

Examination Report Feb/ March 08

The examination committee was surprised by the standard of the application forms and from this date on will not accept any in-complete forms.

If candidates can not follow the procedure of filling out the form they will not be eligible to sit.

Part 1: MCQs

22 candidates sat the MCQs and 21 receiving the 75% pass mark or more.

This was sat at either the students own hospital or within their region.

This process appeared to go well with no negative feedback from centres or co-ordinators.

Part 2: Machine checks and OSCEs

This was held at the Greenlane Clinical Centre where we had tremendous support from the staff, who helped with student orientation during the days before the exam and others helped out on the actual exam day, thank you all.

21 Candidates presented for this part, with 4 of the students being resit's from previous COP.

11 Candidates successfully passed this section.

7 Candidates failed the machine check.

Candidates need to have an understanding of the anaesthetic machine how and why you test each individual part, the high pressure leak test as in other years raised its head again as did the testing or acknowledgement of the Resuscitation bag.

Machine check component attributed to 70% of the failures.

OSCEs: this was the first time for this and the exam committee were pleased that they appeared to go well, with the examiners expressing that it is more robust way to test overall practical knowledge. These stations were designed to name, test or prepare equipment that is usually handled by technicians.

Future candidates are encouraged to look around at everyday items and understand their function. It appeared that we take for granted items we see most days.

One student achieved the perfect score of 10/10 for the OSCEs stations.

Overall 6 candidates failed the OSCEs but 3 of them also having failed the machine check.

I wish to thank all those involved in the examination process for giving up your own time to ensure the on going development and strengthening of our profession.

Nicola Smith-Guerin Examination Committee NZATS