

## Royal College of Pathologists

### Examination regulations - 2018

#### MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY (ACQUIRED DISEASE)

**These regulations must be read in conjunction with the *Regulations and Guidelines – College examinations for Membership and Diplomas*.**

#### ENTRY & TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Candidates must be HPC-registered clinical scientists. There is no specific timing for entry to the examination. Candidates undertaking the HSST curriculum would normally have taken the Part 1 examination by the end of the second year.

Candidates should obtain guidance from their educational supervisor as to when to sit the examination. Candidates should apply only when they are ready. It is very important that candidates do not sit the examination too early before they have acquired the necessary experience. Some general guidance is given below, but apart from the sequence in which the examinations can be sat is not intended to be prescriptive.

Please note that candidates will not be permitted to sit the oral and practical examination until the proposal for the written option has been submitted and approved by the examiners. The final project may be submitted either before or after taking the practical and oral examination.

##### Part 1

In order to achieve the standard required to pass the Part 1 FRCPath examination candidates will normally require at least 12 months of practice in Molecular Pathology, i.e. a minimum of four years relevant postgraduate study and practice.

##### Part 2

Candidates may not sit the Part 2 Examination until having successfully completed the Part 1 Examination and having acquired significant experience of practice in Molecular Pathology.

#### STRUCTURE AND FORMAT OF THE EXAMINATION

##### Part 1

The Part 1 Examination will be a written assessment of knowledge and clinical and laboratory judgement and comprises two three hour written papers. **Candidates must pass both papers at a single sitting to pass the Part 1 Examination.**

It is a test of knowledge of the application of technologies as indicated in the curriculum and their application to the following disorders: Haematopoietic neoplasms solid neoplasms and predisposing conditions and tumour immunology and transplantation.

##### Paper 1: Essay Paper

Paper 1 consists of five essay questions, two of which are mandatory and a choice of two from the remaining three.

##### Paper 2: Short Answer Questions (SAQs) Paper

Paper 2 contains 20 short answer questions (SAQs) designed to elicit knowledge across the whole breadth of the curriculum.

## **Part 2**

The Part 2 examination will be offered with effect from Autumn 2017. It will comprise of one practical paper followed by a one hour oral examination.

## **TIMING OF THE EXAMINATIONS**

The Part 1 examination is offered once a year in the in the Autumn.

The Part 2 examination is offered once a year in the Autumn.

Examinations Department  
The Royal College of Pathologists  
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