

THE MEDICAL COUNCIL

MALTA

Correspondence to be
addressed to:
'The Registrar'

SLH-OPD, Level 1,
St. Luke's Square,
G'Mangia, Malta
WEBSITE: <https://health.gov.mt>

TEL: 21 255 540
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14th December 2015

Report on the Medical Council Malta Statutory Examination (MCMSE) for Dental Surgeons Monday 25th May – Friday 12th June 2015

Introduction:

In accordance to the EU Directive 2005/36/EC, the Health Care Professions Act (HCPA) 2003, Cap 464, and the Medical Council's standard policy, all non-EU applicants or EU applicants in the possession of a non-EU first dental degree, are requested to sit for and successful pass the Medical Council Malta Statutory Examination (MCMSE), in order to be granted Full-Permanent registration in Malta. The MCMSE for Dental Surgeons are to be conducted twice a year by law.

MoU between the UoM and the MCM:

Reference is made to the Report (for file) on the Medical Council Malta Statutory Examination (MCMSE) for Dental Surgeons scheduled in June 2014.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Medical Council Malta (MCM) and the Faculty of Dental Surgery, University of Malta (UoM), was endorsed on Friday 8th May 2015. Prof. Juanito Camilleri, Rector, signed on behalf of the University of Malta, while Dr Ilona Debono, President MCM, signed on behalf of the Council. Prof. N. Attard, Dean, Faculty of Dental Surgery and Ms Svetlana Cachia, Registrar MCM, were present for this event.

This agreement formalized the cooperation between the two parties in the organized of MCMSE for dental professionals who are non-EU applicants or non-Maltese nationals holding non-EU Degrees in Dental Surgery and who are interested in working in Malta and are therefore required to register with the MCM.

Examination Observers & Quality Assurers, MCMSE May-June 2015

During Council Meeting No. 04/2015, held on 18th March 2015, Dr David Muscat, Dr Daniel Farrugia and Mr Philip Borg were appointed as Examination Observers and Quality Assurers during the MCMSE for Dental Surgeons, scheduled to be held between

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Monday 25th May 2015 and Friday 12th June 2015. Each examination session will be assisted by an individual Examination Observer and Quality Assurer. Members were appointed through letter dated 6th April 2015.

During Council Meeting No. 06/2015, held on 20th May 2015, it was unanimously decided that Dr Herbert Messina Ferrante H.E., M.O.M., is also appointed to act as Examination Observers and Quality Assurers during the MCMSE May-June 2015 session. Dr H. Messina Ferrante was appointed by means of letter dated 20th May 2015.

Organisation of the MCMSE for Dentists, May-June 2015:

The Medical Council asked the seven (7) applicants to confirm their interest to sit for this exam by means of email dated 24th March 2015. Applicants were informed that failure to reply to this email will automatically imply that they wish to be removed from the Medical Council's list of applicants waiting to sit for the examination.

Five (5) applicants confirmed their attendance by the said date. These were provided with the full details of the examination and asked to submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV) and a recent Certificate of Good Standing, provided that they had not submitted application within the past three months, by Monday 13th April 2015. Applicants were further informed that the sum of € 1,218.20, (as per the 'Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2015') was to reach the Medical Council by Monday 13th April 2015, or otherwise one would not be eligible to sit for the examination, by means of email dated 1st April 2015. In line with the MoU between the UoM and the MCM, the payments received by each candidate were transferred in full to the Faculty of Dental Surgery, UoM.

Three (3) dentists paid the sum of € 1,218.20 by the date stipulated. These were eligible to sit for the MCMSE May-June 2015 and were therefore provided with the guidelines on the examination by means of email dated 15th April 2015.

The Faculty of Dental Surgery forwarded to MCM the 2015 General Guidelines, the examination timetables, and a site map of the UoM Main Campus (please refer to Annexes 1 and 2) by means of an email dated 17th April 2015, and these were forwarded to the three (3) candidates.

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Outcome of the MCMSE for dentists May-June 2015:

The MCMSE for Dental Surgeons ended on Friday 12th June 2015. The Faculty provided the MCM with the detailed results obtained by each candidate by means of email dated 3rd July 2015. The official results were subsequently received on 8th July 2015.

Candidates were informed whether they had passed or failed the MCMSE through emails dated Wednesday 3rd July 2015. Candidates were also informed that the next MCMSE for dentists was scheduled to be held in May-June 2016. A breakdown of the marks obtained and the way forward was communicated through letters dated Thursday 9th July 2015.

Table 1: MCMSE May-June 2015 Results

DATE	NUMBER OF APPLICANTS	RESULTS	
		PASS	FAIL
26 th May 2015 – 12 th June 2015	3 candidates sat for whole examination	-	3

MCMSE for Dental Surgeons, September 2016:

The holding of the Medical Council Malta Statutory Examinations (MCMSE) for dentists is only confirmed for the May-June sessions (finals); since the holding of the September (resit) sessions organised by the UoM, depend solely on the outcome of the June session.

To this effect, following the closing date for dentists to sit for the June session, all applicants for registration were directed towards the June session the following year. This matter was brought to the attention of Prof. Nikolai Attard, Dean Faculty of Dental Surgery, by means of an email dated 15th May 2015, but the Faculty explained that the September sessions will only take place in case there are resits, and to date no further information could be provided. The Council was asked to contact the Faculty after that the May-June session results were issued.

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Guidelines on the MCMSE for Dental Surgeons:

The Faculty granted its permission to the MCM to upload the official guidelines on its website, as it had already done in the case of the MCMSE for doctors, by means of email dated 21st May 2015¹. The MCM aims to ensure constant transparency in its procedures and actions.

All applicants who are requested by the to sit and successful pass for these examination in order to be eligible for Full/Permanent Registration and Licence to Practice in Malta, are provided with these guidelines together with the decision of the Council.

(sgd) Dr David Muscat B.D.S.
Examination Observer & Quality Assurer

(sgd) Dr Herbert Messina Ferrante H.E., M.O.M., B.Ch.D., L.D.S.R.C.S.(Eng),
F.I.C.D.(USA)
Examination Observer & Quality Assurer, Member MCM

(sgd) Dr Daniel Farrugia M.D., DEAA, EDIC
Examination Observer & Quality Assurer, Member MCM

(sgd) Mr Philip Borg Ph.Lic., S.Th.B., Dip.Soc.Sc.
Examination Observer & Quality Assurer, Member MCM

(sgd) Ms Svetlana Borg Cachia B.Com.(Hons.)(Melit.), M.A.(Public Policy)(Melit.)
Registrar Medical Council

¹ These may be accessed from:

https://healthcms.gov.mt/en/regcounc/medicalcouncil/Pages/Mlt_Stat_Exam.aspx

**MEDICAL COUNCIL MALTA
STATUTORY EXAMINATIONS**

**May/June 2015
SESSION OF DENTAL EXAMINATIONS**

WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS

DATE	SUBJECT	TIME	VENUE*
Monday 25 th May 2015	Restorative Dentistry	08.30-11.35	Meeting Room 3, Medical School
Tuesday 26 th May 2015	Oral Medicine, Oral Surgery, Oral Pathology and Oral Radiology	08.30-11.35	Meeting Room 3, Medical School
Thursday 28 th May 2015	Preventive & Community Dentistry	08.30-11.35	Meeting Room 3, Medical School
Monday 1 st June 2015	Child Dental Health and Orthodontics	08.30-11.35	Lecture Room 4/5, Block C, Level 1

CLINICAL ASSESSMENT/ORAL EXAMINATIONS

DATE	SUBJECT	TIME	VENUE
Wednesday 27 th May 2015	Child Dental Health & Orthodontics (Oral)	11.00am-13.45pm	Teaching Clinics, Dental Department, MDH
Friday 29 th May 2015	Restorative Dentistry	09.00am-12.00noon 13.30-16.30pm	Phantom Head Facilities Biomedical Bldgs Main Campus, University of Malta
Thursday 4 th June 2015	Oral Medicine, Oral Surgery, Oral Pathology and Radiology	09.30-11.30am	Meeting Room 4, Medical School, MDH
Friday 12 th June 2015	Preventive and Community Dentistry	12.00noon	Medical School Board Room, MDH

N.B. Faculty may change time and dates if circumstances necessitate amendments

Mr. Karl Debattista
Faculty Officer

Office of the Medical School
Mater Dei Hospital
15th April 2015.

General Guidelines for the
Medical Council Malta Statutory Examination (MCMSE) for Dental Surgeons
In Conjunction with the Faculty of Dental Surgery, University of Malta

The examinations will be held on the premises of the Faculty of Dental Surgery, University of Malta, and/or any alternative sites, as deemed necessary by the Medical Council and Faculty. Candidates will be provided with the necessary information on the venues of the examinations.

Candidates for the Medical Council Examinations in Dentistry are advised to present themselves at least 30 minutes before the start of the exam and identify themselves with the **Medical Council Observer at the Secretary's Office**, Faculty of Dental Surgery, The Medical School, Mater Dei Hospital.

Candidates are to present the necessary identification with the Medical Council Observer. Only passports from the county of origin or Passports/ Identification Cards issued from Government of Malta will be recognised as acceptable identification documents.

Candidates are to be dressed in professional attire for all written and viva examinations.

All the written and viva examinations will be conducted in English Language.

There will be four examinations in the following divisions of Dentistry:

1. Preventive and Community Dentistry, including practice management,
2. Child Dental Health and Orthodontics,
3. Restorative Dentistry and
4. Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology, Oral Surgery and Dental Radiology

Students have to be successful in both written and viva components of the respective examinations to obtain a pass in the subject. Failure to attend a session will lead to an automatic fail in the examination. If a candidate fails one of the four examinations it will lead to an overall failure. There will be no resit examinations. Unsuccessful candidates will have to reapply in the next available session of the examinations.

Examinations Details:

1. PREVENTIVE AND COMMUNITY DENTISTRY including Practice Management

The written examination in PREVENTIVE AND COMMUNITY DENTISTRY is of 3 hours duration. There will be one paper with 2 sections as follows:

Section A: 2 Compulsory questions, essay format.

Section B: 3 questions to choose 2. The questions can be an essay or short answer format. The short answer format will have a choice.

The viva examination in Preventive and Community Dentistry will consist of a discussion. Slides may be used as a basis for the viva. The duration of the viva examination will be 20 minutes.

2. CHILD DENTAL HEALTH AND ORTHODONTICS (CDHO)

The written examination is of 3 hours duration, equally divided between Orthodontics and Paediatric Dentistry. There are 4 sections in the examination as follows:

Section A: Compulsory question in Orthodontics; Essay Format

Section B: Compulsory question in Paediatric Dentistry; Essay Format

Section C: 3 questions to choose 2 in Orthodontics, multiple short answer format.

Section D: 3 questions to choose 2 in Paediatric Dentistry, multiple short answer format.

The viva examination in CDHO will cover both divisions of Orthodontics and Paediatric Dentistry. The examination will consist of a discussion on clinical cases. Patients, study models, radiographs, tracings and clinical slides may be used as a basis for the viva. The duration of the viva examination will be 20 minutes.

3. RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY

The written examination in Restorative Dentistry is of 3 hours duration. There will be one paper with 3 sections:

Section A- Biomaterials, Endodontics and Operative Dentistry

Section B- Periodontics

Section C- Prosthodontics

Every section will have 4 questions to choose 2.

The format of the questions can be an essay or short answer format.

The practical examination in Restorative Dentistry will be held at the Phantom Head Laboratory, Biomedical Buildings, University of Malta Main Campus. The examination will be held on a Phantom head using acrylic teeth or on appropriate models.

The candidates should note that the Department of Dental Surgery/ University of Malta would supply all instruments and materials. Damage to the adjacent tooth and large preparations that would jeopardize the pulp vitality in a real tooth, will lead to failure.

The practical examination in Restorative Dentistry will be subdivided in 2 parts:

Morning (9.00am):

1. Fixed Prosthodontics (1hour 30mins)

In the Crown and Bridgework component, the candidate will be requested to prepare a tooth/teeth and associated temporary restorations. Damage to the adjacent tooth and/or large preparations that jeopardize the pulp vitality in a real tooth, will be considered as an automatic failure.

2. Removable Prosthodontics (30-45mins)

In the Removable component, the candidate may be requested to perform one or more of the following:

- Prepare a denture design for a number of study models
- Perform a laboratory procedure associated with denture construction

Afternoon Session (13.30pm)

3. Conservative Dentistry (1hour 30mins)

In the Conservative dentistry component, the candidates will be requested to complete the following in order to qualify:

- A cavity preparation and restoration

Damage to the adjacent tooth and/or large preparations that jeopardize the pulp vitality in a real tooth, will be considered as an automatic failure.

4. Endodontics (Duration 30-45 mins)

In the Endodontics component, the candidate will be requested to prepare an access cavity on a tooth where the canals should be clearly identified. A pre-operative radiograph will be supplied.

4. Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology, Oral Surgery and Dental Radiology

The written examination in Oral Medicine, Oral Surgery, Oral Pathology and Dental Radiology is of 3 hours duration. Candidates are requested to answer six (6) out of eight (8) questions. Topics can include diagnostic characteristics and treatment planning. Diagnostics includes epidemiological characteristics, clinical signs and symptoms, radiological features and main pathological characteristics. Treatment planning should include the specific treatment of the surgical procedures, where deemed necessary.

The viva examination will cover all aspects of the division. The examination will consist of a discussion of clinical slides and radiographs. The duration of the viva examination will be 15 minutes.