



THE SOCIETY FOR
VASCULAR TECHNOLOGY OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Practical Examination for the Accreditation of Vascular Scientists

Dear Hannah,

Re: SVT Practical Exam - Fiona Heywood

Thank you for agreeing to be the internal examiner for the above candidate's practical examination. The candidate should arrange, with both yourself and the external assessor, a mutually convenient date for the assessment which is usually carried out at the candidates own place of work.

As you will be aware, the candidate has successfully passed the Society's theory modules in Vascular Technology and Physics and the practical examination constitutes the final test before the candidate can become an Accredited Vascular Scientist. The role of the examiner in this practical exam is to, pass judgement on the professionalism and competency of the applicant, with a view to adherence to the Guidelines For Practical Exam Assessors.

You can expect the whole examination to take about 4-5 hours. The candidate might spend slightly more time on the scans on exam day than they would on a normal scanning day, therefore it is not recommended to book patients for the exam who are under time constraints i.e. patients returning to an outpatient one-stop clinic.

The practical exam consists of 3 patient examinations (please see appendices 3-6 of the accreditation document for the scope of the scan) and a *viva voce*.

- A bilateral carotid and vertebral duplex examination (from Core Modality 1 – Carotid duplex)
- A single full-leg (aorta-ankle, even if this is not in your local protocol) arterial duplex (from Core Modality 2 - Peripheral arterial duplex)
- A single full-leg (groin-ankle, even if this is not in your local protocol) varicose vein and deep vein scan (from Core Modality 3 - Peripheral venous duplex)
- Viva Voce – covering clinical protocols, understanding of machine and service development.

It is normally the remit of the internal examiner or supervisor to select appropriate patients for the exam.

Please find attached: Guidelines for practical exam assessors
Practical exam score sheet (please print)

Before the assessment date: **Familiarise yourself fully with the exam score sheet and the guidelines for practical exam assessors.**
Ensure that the candidate's protocols have been received by the external assessor.
Familiarise yourself with the candidate's protocols.

Please note that examiners retain the right to raise questions about fundamental errors of practice. Any such serious concerns should be indicated on the score sheet and forwarded for consideration by the education committee. To facilitate this, the result is not made known on the day but the candidate will be informed, by post, within two weeks.

Please also note that in case the candidate fails the practical it has been agreed that the same examiners should be contacted if the candidate re-applies not unless due to unavoidable circumstances then we will find another examiner.

N.B. the candidate's employer should be approached for reimbursement of any expenses that you incur and wish to claim back
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Prior to the exam day the candidate will need to send a copy of the protocols and the last 25 scan reports in each of the core modalities to the external examiner and myself. On the exam day the candidate will also need to provide evidence of their work experience in the form of files / logbooks / diaries etc (as specified in the practical application information), for the external examiner to review.

The external examiner will collect and return both sets of examination sheets at the end of the assessment.

It just remains for me to thank you, on behalf of the society, for giving your time and valuable experience to promote the next generation of vascular scientists.

Yours sincerely,

Kelly

Mrs Kelly Swagell
Practical Exam Officer

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