

EBOPRAS

EUROPEAN BOARD OF PLASTIC, RECONSTRUCTIVE AND AESTHETIC SURGERY

EUROPEAN BOARD EXAMINATION IN PLASTIC SURGERY

GENERAL RULES AND SUBJECTS TO BE EXAMINED

The European Board Examination in Plastic Surgery is organised by the Education Committee of EBOPRAS and is intended both as a quality mark, and to help in the harmonisation of standards in EU and UEMS member countries.

The European Board examination is not an alternative to a national examination, where one exists.

Passing the EBOPRAS Examination does not give a right to work in a member country of the UEMS. Such rights are granted by the National Authority in each country.

It may be necessary to limit the number of candidates that can be accepted for a particular examination, or part of an examination. Candidates are therefore advised to apply early, as the first to apply will be given priority. No applications will be considered after the closing date given on the website.

Information about the EBOPRAS Examination, together with the logbook and application form is available through the EBOPRAS website. (www.ebopras.eu). Candidates who are having difficulties should either contact one of their national EBOPRAS delegates (details on the website) or email exam@ebopras.eu

Candidates who make false statements in relation to their application will be disqualified, and may be reported to their National Medical Authority, training scheme and/or hospital.

A legal right cannot be derived from the rules.

By signing the application form for the EBOPRAS examination, the candidate accepts these rules.

Examination format & timing

The examination consists of two parts

Part 1 – Multiple choice questions (MCQ)

Part 2 – Oral examination

Part 1

Eligibility: Candidates must be

Either Registered specialists in Plastic Surgery from any country

Or Trainees in Plastic Surgery, training in a UEMS member country

Part 1 is a written examination, held once a year, normally in September at a central location. It consists of 100 multiple choice questions (MCQ) in English only, covering the EBOPRAS syllabus (see Appendix A), and is intended to test theoretical knowledge. Three hours are allowed to complete the exam. The questions are intended to avoid the use of national features or proper names as much as is possible, replacing these with concepts which should be widely understood.

A set of the questions is given to each candidate, together with a special answer sheet. There are 4 or 5 possible answers to each question, and candidates must choose the one answer that they consider best. The pass mark is 66%, and no marks are deducted for wrong answers. The written exam is marked by a group of National EBOPRAS delegates, using an optical mark reader and software to allow analysis of the questions and corrections for ambiguity or error, to make the exam as fair as possible. Questions seen to be incorrect or ambiguous may be withdrawn from the exam.

The results of the written examination will normally be available later on the day of the MCQ, but will be sent by email to candidates unable to stay for the results. Candidates will be told whether or not they have passed, but the exact marks are not given out. Only candidates who pass the MCQ are accepted for the oral examination, and they will be notified later, by email, of the timing of their oral examination.

Candidates who fail the MCQ may resit at a later date, and pay the fee and must agree to the rules applicable at the time of the resit. There is no limit to the number of attempts at Part 1

Part 2

Eligibility: Candidates must

- I. Have passed the MCQ examination within the previous 3 years and
- II. Not have failed Part 2 four times since passing Part 1 and
- III. Be Either Registered specialists in Plastic Surgery from any country
Or Trainees in their final 12 months of Plastic Surgery training in one of the UEMS member countries

Part 2 is an oral examination, held twice a year, normally in May and November, at a venue in a UEMS member country.

The oral is intended to test clinical application of knowledge, and the questions are based on clinical pictures depicting problems that present to Plastic Surgeons. The pictures are divided into categories, and each candidate will normally be asked a question from each of the eight categories (congenital abnormalities, trauma, burns, hand surgery, tumours, reconstruction, aesthetic and breast) to make the exam as fair as possible to all.

There are two orals per candidate, each lasting about 25 minutes, and covering half the categories. The two orals are normally conducted by two separate sets of three examiners, in English. If the candidate has requested, when applying for Part 2, some help with assistance in one of the other main EU languages, (French, German, Italian or Spanish) then at least one of the examiners will normally speak the chosen language fluently.

Each oral is marked independently by each of the examiners. The outcome of one oral does not affect the second. The marks of each oral are added at the end of the examination to determine whether a candidate has passed.

The result of the examination will usually be available on the day. Candidates, who are unable to receive their result in person, may receive it by email.

Those candidates who are registered specialists in plastic surgery will receive an EBOPRAS diploma, and be able to call themselves "Fellow of EBOPRAS." Their names will be posted on the EBOPRAS website. (www.ebopras.eu) which is the official list of Fellows. Trainees who pass the exam will not receive a diploma or become a "Fellow of EBOPRAS", until they have sent a copy of their certificate of specialist status to the Chairman of the Education Committee.

Candidates who fail the oral may resit at a later date, and pay the fee and agree the rules applicable at the time of the resit. However, if a candidate has failed Part 2 four times since passing Part 1, he or she will need to resit both Part 1 and Part 2.

EBOPRAS Examination - Subjects to be examined

1. History of Plastic Surgery
2. Wound healing
3. Skin and other grafts
4. Principles and physiology of skin flap surgery
5. The vascular territories of the body
6. Principles of muscle and musculocutaneous flaps
7. Principles and techniques of microvascular surgery and free flaps
8. Replantation and revascularisation
9. Principles and techniques of tissue expansion
10. Alloplastic implants
11. Burns
12. Facial injuries
13. Reconstruction of facial features
14. Facial palsy and its treatment
15. Embryology of the head and neck
16. Cleft lip & palate and velopharyngeal insufficiency
17. Principles of craniofacial surgery
18. Tumours of the head and neck
19. Aesthetic surgery of the head and neck
20. Vascular anomalies
21. Tumours of the skin
22. Reconstruction of the trunk
23. Pressure sores
24. Breast surgery – aesthetic & reconstructive
25. Abdominoplasty, liposuction and body contouring
26. Genital reconstructive surgery (congenital and acquired)
27. Examination of the hand and relevant anatomy
28. General principles of hand surgery
29. Tendon and nerve repair
30. Brachial plexus injuries
31. Nerve compression syndromes
32. Thumb and finger reconstruction
33. Dupuytren's disease
34. Congenital anomalies of the hand and forearm
35. Reconstructive surgery of the lower extremity

A more detailed syllabus is available at the website (www.ebopras.eu)