



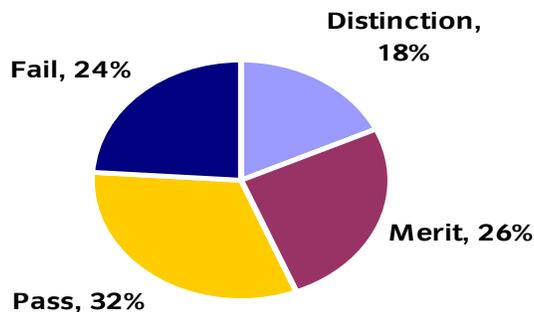
AMSPAR

February 2010 Series – Examiner’s report

4415-02-300 – Level 3 Certificate in Medical Terminology

4419-02-330 – Level 3 Diploma for Medical Secretaries

Overall performance



Areas of good performance

It was very pleasing to see that there were some excellent candidates who showed a wide knowledge and understanding of medical terms and their usage, achieving very high marks. They gave full explanations in their answers and demonstrated ability across the whole examination paper. Accuracy in the medical field is vital and these candidates are to be congratulated. They will be an asset to any employer.

Question 4 - The majority scored well on this question.

Questions 5&6 - These were well answered by the majority of candidates.

Areas for improvement

There were some very poor papers demonstrating lack of knowledge and understanding and some candidates appeared to have poor literacy skills. Spelling was poor and many failed to demonstrate an understanding of the required medical terms giving an indication of having no idea of medical context.

Question 1&7 Although there were a few excellent answers, many candidates failed to show sufficient knowledge to obtain more than 40% in these questions.



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Questions 2&3 These questions produced difficulty for numerous candidates with obvious guessing by the weakest students. Some answers given indicated a complete lack of understanding of the body and the terms applied. Incorrect use of the combining vowel and incorrect spelling were widely apparent with weaker students.

Question 5&6 Some candidates failed to answer many of these correctly even though lists of abbreviations and word parts have now been provided by C&G.

Medical terms least known

Aetiology	vertebrae	congenital	osteogenesis	signs	pallor
Papilloedema	atresia	onychosis	melaena	myxoedema	atherosclerosis
Atherosclerosis		laparotomy	lesion	prostatectomy	suppuration
Nephrolithiasis					
inter-	pulmono-	-desis	-malacia		

Abbreviations

CT/CAT	MRI	CSU	Cx	TURP	P
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Recommendations and tips

Take care to read the paper carefully. Candidates who do not read the question properly make silly mistakes. Marks are awarded for correct spelling of medical terms. If the English answers are not correct in the spelling, marks are not deducted providing the meaning is clear. Some candidates continue to give semantic answers when translating medical terms. The literal meaning is not necessarily the proper meaning of a medical word and by doing this candidates show a lack of any real knowledge or understanding of what is required.

Some knowledge of the body is essential in order to understand medical terminology and its application. Tutors require a sound working knowledge of the subject in order to give correct tuition to their students. Medical terminology is in context and appropriate answers show understanding of this.