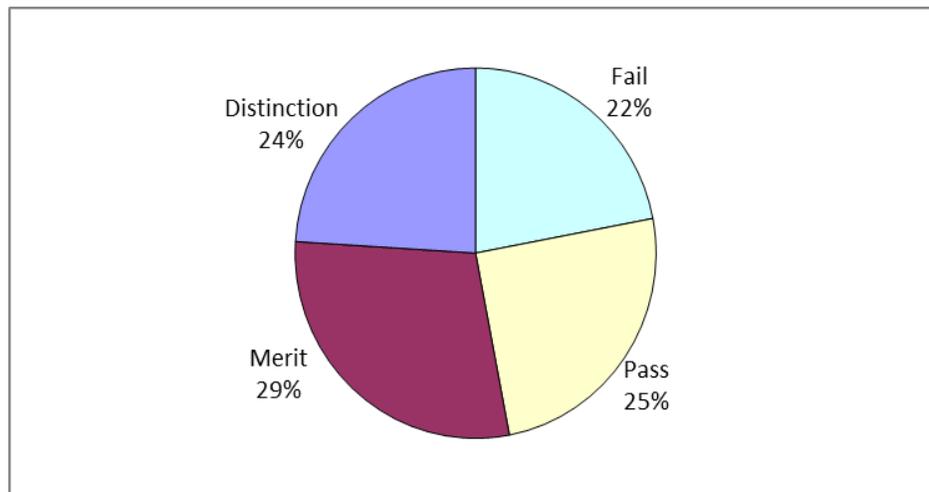




AMSPAR

February 2012 series - Examiner's report

**4415-02-300 Level 3 Certificate in Medical Terminology
4419-02-330 Level 3 Diploma for Medical Secretaries**



Areas of good performance

There were some excellent papers submitted which showed a very good knowledge and understanding of the subject. There were some very high marks awarded to a large number of candidates. This was extremely pleasing to see and both tutors and candidates should be very proud of this achievement.

Question 1(5.1, 7.1, 8.1, 9.1, 10.1, 14.1, 15.1, 16.1 & 18.1)

This was generally well answered by most candidates.

Question 4 (2, 4, 10, 12, 13, 14, &15)

This was well answered by most candidates and involved matching block questions.

Questions 5 & 6 (2.4, 3.4, 5.4, 7.4, 10.4, 11.4, 18.4 & 19.4)

These questions were generally well answered by the majority of candidates. However there were some candidates who showed a lack of basic knowledge and understanding of this area. SADS was often confused with SAD and CCF caused some problems.



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Areas for improvement

In the examination overall, there were a few very poor papers submitted with candidates showing lack of understanding of the subject.

Question 2 (1.2, 2.2, 3.2, 7.2, 8.2, 11.2, 12.2, 14.2 & 15.2)

There were some excellent answers to this question although some candidates had very little knowledge of the correct terms. However, the general standard for this question was very encouraging despite the very poor answers from a section of candidates. Overall, this question usually defines the final outcome of a pass or fail grading for the candidate. Many candidates confused diagnosis with prognosis and the term malaise caused problems for a section of candidates.

Questions 3 & 7 (2.1, 3.1, 9.1, 10.1, 12.1, 15.1, 16.1 14.1 & 19.1)

These questions also produced some excellent answers, together with some weak results, from a group of candidates. The English spelling by some of the candidates was of concern.

Medical terms least known

Narcotics	Vertigo	Palpitations	Pruritus	Polydipsia	Ataxia	Epidural
Myxoedema	Scoliosis	Tetraplegia	Mediastinal	Infarct	Stenosis	
Mal-	-lysis	-plasia				

Meanings

Progress and probable outcome of a disease A bruise A general feeling of being unwell

Abbreviations

CCF SADS ESR PPI tid



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Recommendations and tips

It is essential that candidates take the time to read and understand what is asked in the questions. Mistakes are made by candidates who fail to do so. Marks are awarded for the correct spelling of medical terms.

In questions 1 (5.1, 7.1, 8.1, 9.1, 10.1, 14.1, 15.1, 16.1 & 18.1) & 7 (2.1, 5.1, 7.1, 17.1 & 19.1), careful reading of the given passages should assist the candidate to have a greater understanding of the medical terms. The context in which they are being used can help with the correct interpretation of the terms.

A good understanding of the anatomy and physiology of the body is necessary if candidates are to be able to produce correct terms and interpretations. Tutors need to be familiar with common medical terms in a working situation in order to guide their candidates correctly. Accuracy is essential in the field of medicine.