



**KING HAMAD
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL**
مستشفى الملك حمد الجامعي



Report on first EBPS Examination Training Course

17th and 18th November 2017

King Hamad University Hospital, Bahrain

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King Hamad University Hospital, Bahrain

Host: Professor Martin Corbally

Faculty: Professor Robert Carachi
Professor Tolga Dagli
Professor Hilal Matta

Invited Guest: Dr Hussein Mohammed

Trainees

12 trainees registered to attend

1 withdrew due to visa difficulties, 1 did not obtain a visa. 1 attended only the second day due to flight cancellation.

The ten remaining candidates came from:

KSA:	6
India:	1
Bahrain:	2
Egypt:	1

Facilities

The training course was held in the Learning Department of the King Hamad University Hospital. A pre course meeting was held with the host the day before the course and the facilities viewed to help the faculty team familiarise themselves prior to delivering the course.

The Study Room was used as a base for day one. This was a very well lit basement room, with room to move around. Tea and coffee was served in this room.

This room was used for the mock clinical and viva examinations and baby mannequins were provided for the mock clinical exam.

The OSCE stations were held in the adjacent room, a much larger room which allowed three stations to be set up.

Tea/coffee/water was provided throughout the day for the faculty and trainees. Lunch was also provided for all in the staff restaurant.

Photographs

An official King Hamad University Hospital photographer was on hand during the first morning and took many photographs which will be available for the training course use on the website at a later date.

Photographs were also taken by the Faculty Administrator.

Programme Details

Each trainee was given a folder with full details on the training programme, information on the training course, reading lists, copies of the European Syllabus, Fluid and Electrolyte paper, and mindmaps on Wilms Tumour and Oesophageal Atresia. Also included was a mock part two examination programme, papers on how the part one and part exams were delivered and finally a copy of the marking scales used by examiners.

Also included in the folders was a Course Evaluation Sheet which will be analysed and presented separately.

Day One

Day one covered the introduction, history and background of the European Board of Paediatric Surgery Examination, the European syllabus and recommended reading.

A detailed explanation with hints and tips for passing the Part One exam was presented; covering a variety of multiple choice scenarios, how to read the question properly, time management and general conduct.

A further detailed presentation on the Part Two examination structure followed, with hints, tips and guidance on conduct and behaviour in part 2 exam, looking at paperwork provided during the part two exam.

To break up the didactic session and to introduce learning experiences on basic sciences, OSCE stations were introduced. There were three stations, covering:

- Shock
- Acid base/Electrolytes
- Burns

Three trainees attended each station, and rotated every 12 minutes. After a brief explanation on what the OSCE design of exam is, they were given written scenarios and asked to calculate their findings on an answer sheet. Learning from the stations was presented on day two.



The afternoon of the first day began with a mock part one examination, containing 15 questions (6 with images). These papers were self marked during a detailed discussion on the answers for each individual question, focusing on the questions that candidates struggled with, and the reasons why they marked them incorrectly (lack of knowledge, question comprehension, techniques issues.)

The end of the first day culminated in a mock clinical examination: two examiners explained the clinical examination in detail then each candidate was given the opportunity to examine a baby mannequin, with an actor father. X-rays and contrasts were also available to view during this session.



Day Two

Day two began with trainees being divided into two groups of five. Each group attended a table with two examiners, who conducted a mock neonatal, mock general paediatric oncology surgery and a mock genito urology/trauma oral viva. Each trainee was given ten minutes, with the other four observing. The final ten minutes was given to open discussion and feedback to trainees. These sessions were used as introduction to vivas, how to conduct respond during an exam, with questions with images. Teaching was used when necessary. These mock vivas simulated the real exam vivas in every aspect as accurately as possible. The only major difference was that while in the real exam, the flow of information is one-way (from candidates to examiner only), the mock vivas were used as a tutorial on the expected ideal answers for each question. Trainees were reminded that if they didn't know the answer, please be honest, if they didn't hear the question, please speak up. The sessions were supportive and open, covering technique, knowledge and experience. Candidates felt that these mock vivas & discussion gave them confidence, familiarity and awareness of what is required of them.



The afternoon was given over to a presentation and report on the previous day's OSCE Stations, which included each of the station leaders describing the scenarios in details and going through the formulas required for the solutions and prescriptions. There was quite a lively debate.

A final open session covering Eligibility criteria, how to complete application forms, logbook requirements, sample part two programme, the marking scale and the giving of results. Trainees were interested in how long the part one certificate was valid for, were they given support to obtain visas to enter the countries the part two examinations would be held in and how their eligibility was assessed. The majority of trainees had brought with them their log books and certificates of completion of paediatric surgery training; these documents were reviewed and assessed with the majority being eligible. Others required supporting letters from their supervisors. A mock results session was carried out, allowing trainees to understand the method of individual result giving and why.

Certificates of attendance were presented on an individual basis, with photos being taken of everyone at the end of a successful two day training course.



General Comments and Learning

General comments from the trainees can be found in the attached trainee's evaluation.

Verbal feedback during the question and answer session indicated that trainees wished more information/training on how to pass the part one examination with more questions being available.

The Faculty Team met each evening prior to and at the end of each day to debrief and forward plan. These meetings were essential and allowed the training course to run smoothly with no unseen problems. Two such plans included merging the OSCE stations from five to three, and asking Dr Hussein Ahmed Mohammed (Senior Registrar from the KHUH and an FEBPS Graduate from 2013) to participate as a local examiner during the mock vivas as a support member of the Faculty.

During later informal discussions Professor Martin Corbally indicated his willingness to continue to host the training course from next year, and he expected that more of the trainees from the larger hospital in Bahrain would attend. The training course faculty were delighted and grateful to Professor Corbally for this invitation.

Feedback from the candidates who went on to sit the part one exam the day after the training course stated that they all had colleagues in their hospitals who would like to attend the training course in preparation for the part one and two exams in Bahrain.

The Training Course Faculty Team

Professor Robert Carachi
Professor Tolga Dagli
Professor Hilal Matta
Mrs Rosemary Mackenzie

Feedback obtained from EBPS Facebook page:

There were over 1200 hits on the Exam's Facebook page, and some individual comments:

Thanks all for coming to Bahrain and having the first course in King Hamad University Hospital. It was very successful and well organised. I am sure that it helped the candidates through their exam. Hope to continue doing this course and see you in Bahrain again.

Great news

Thank you – great course!