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PSYCHOMETRIC
SOLUTIONS
GROUP

Examination Report

Part 2 Fellowship of the Royal College of
Ophthalmologists (FRCOphth) Oral
Examination

New Delhi

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1 Summary

The part 2 Fellowship of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists (FRCOphth) oral examination consists of two elements. The objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) consists of six stations worth a total of 198 marks, whilst the structured viva consists of five stations worth a total of 120 marks. One of the OSCE stations is conducted with the vivas.

A total of 8 candidates sat the examination.

The pass mark for the structured viva was 71 and the pass mark for the OSCE was 119.

The reliability of the oral examination was 0.909 (Viva) and 0.814 (OSCE).

The pass rates for each the viva and the OSCE were 50.0% (4/8 candidates passed the viva, and 4/8 passed the OSCE). The overall exam pass rate was also 50.0% (4/8).

2 Standard Setting

The pass marks for each section of the exam are identified using the Hofstee method:

2.1 Hofstee method

After the examination, examiners were asked to review the parameters for the standard setting based upon their judgment of the difficulty of the stations. The following values were used to set the pass mark:

- The maximum credible pass mark for the examination = 65%
- The minimum credible pass mark for the examination = 55%
- The maximum credible pass rate for the examination = 100%
- The minimum credible pass rate for the examination = 45% (OSCE), 55% (VIVA)

The cumulative fail rate as a function of the pass mark and the co-ordinates derived from the four values above were plotted on a graph. The point where a line joining the two coordinates intersects the cumulative function curve is used to identify the pass mark.

A plot visualising this process for the OSCE part of the examination is shown in the relevant section below. Please see the 'standard setting' section of the Structured Viva section for notes on the viva pass mark.

3 The Structured Vivas

There were five structured vivas, which were held on the 28th October. The communication skills OSCE station was conducted as one of the viva stations, making six stations in all (the OSCE station is not included in the analysis of the viva; it is merely administered at the same time). Each viva lasted 10 minutes. The viva stations were:

- Station 1: Patient investigations and data interpretation
- Station 2: Patient management 1
- Station 3: Patient management 2
- Station 4: Attitudes, ethics and responsibilities.
- Station 5: Audit, research and EBM and Health promotion and disease prevention

3.1 Results

Maximum mark (five stations, 10 examiners (2 per station), 24 marks per station): 120

Table 1: Marks for the viva

Statistic	Value	Percentage
Pass mark (using Hofstee method)	66/120	55.0%
Mean score	71.4/120	59.5%
Median score	69.5/120	57.9%
Range	52-95	43% - 79%
Reliability (Cronbach's alpha)	0.909	
SEM (rounded)	4.64 (5)	3.9%
Final adjusted pass mark (+1 SEM)	71/120	59.2%
Pass rate	4 out of 8	50.0%

Figure 1: Viva scores (red line denotes pass mark)

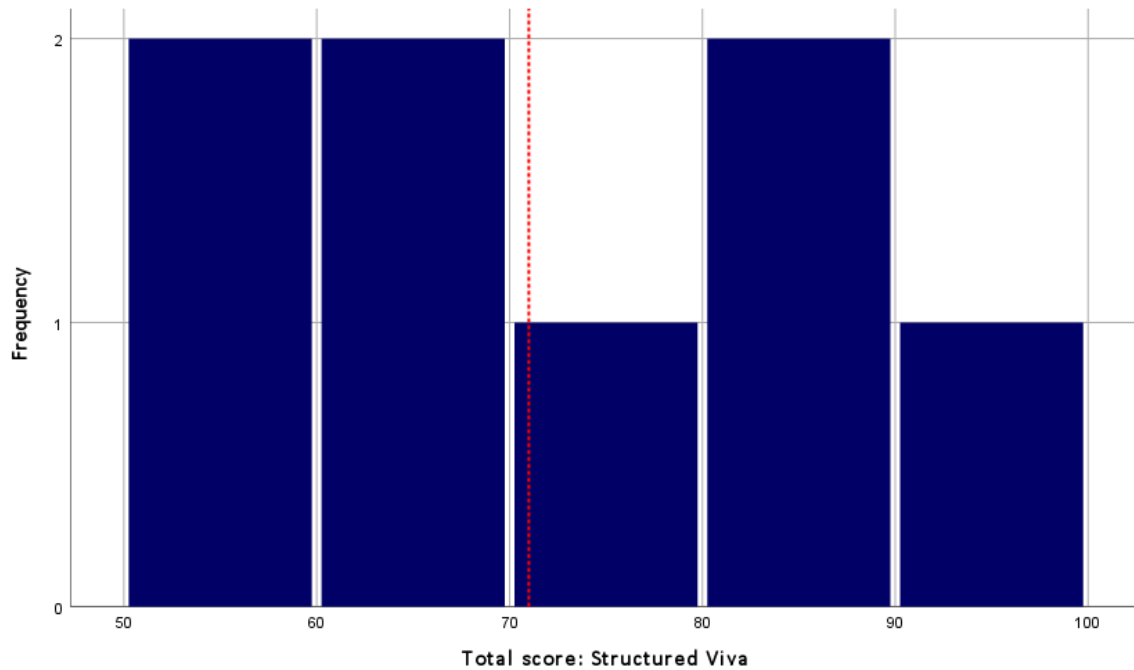


Table 2: Station Summary — viva

Station	Category	Maximum possible	Mean	Median	Min	Max
1	PI	24	16.0	17.5	9	20
2	PM1	24	14.9	15.0	8	20
3	PM2	24	12.1	11.0	6	20
4	AER	24	13.8	13.5	6	20
5	HPDP/EBM	24	14.6	15.0	7	21

Table 3: Correlation between examiners' marks at each station

Station	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3	Station 4	Station 5
Category	PI	PM1	PM2	AER	HPDP/EBM
Correlation	0.84	0.79	0.99	0.94	0.91

Table 4: Mean absolute difference in examiners' marks at each station

Station	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3	Station 4	Station 5
Category	PI	PM1	PM2	AER	HPDP/EBM
Mean absolute difference*	1.0	1.63	0.13	0.50	1.13

*The 'mean absolute difference' is the average difference between Examiner A and Examiner B scores for each station

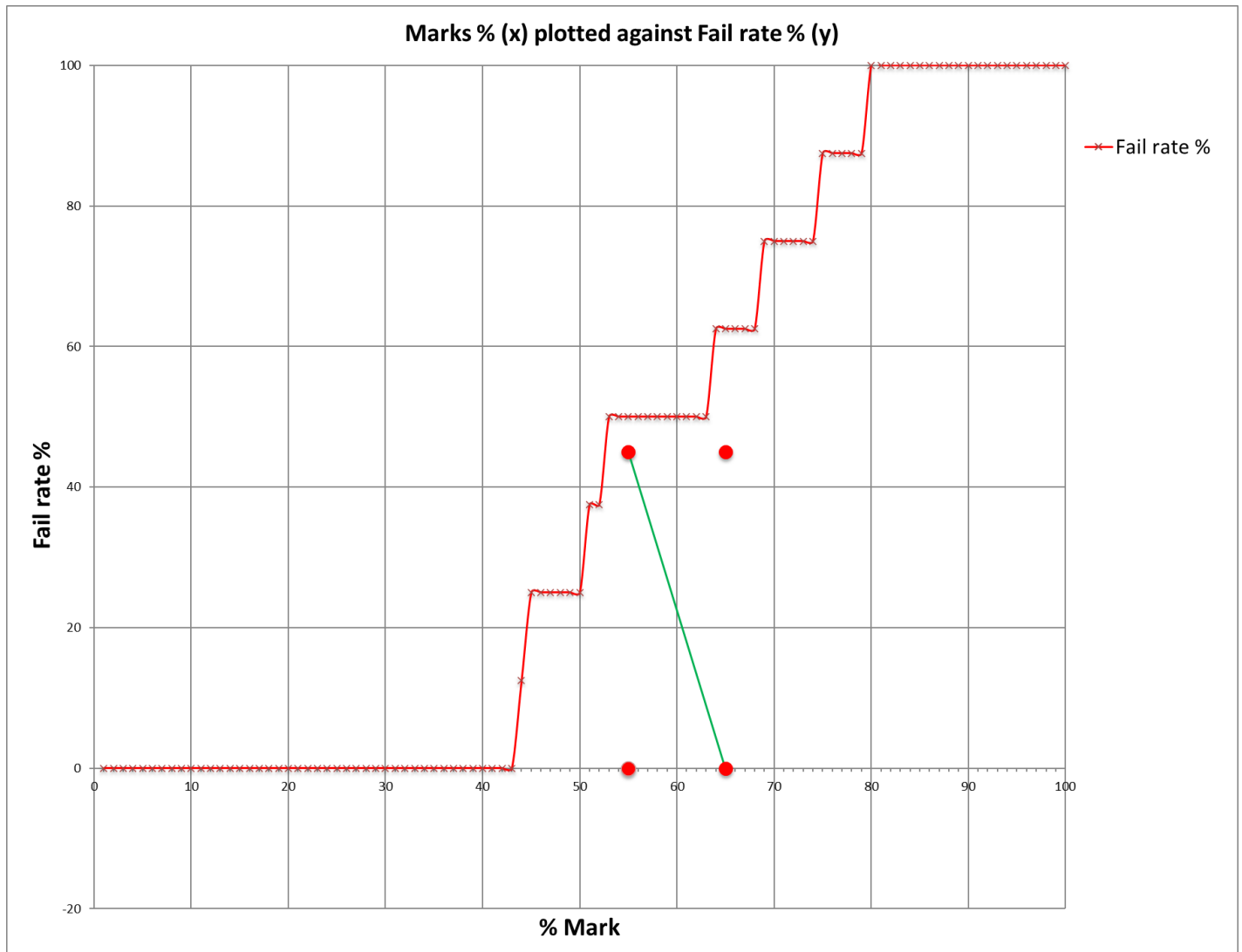
Table 5: Correlation between viva stations

	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3	Station 4	Station 5
Station 1					
Station 2	0.57				
Station 3	0.67	0.46			
Station 4	0.37	0.57	0.14		
Station 5	0.38	0.57	0.38	0.74	

3.2 Standard setting for the structured vivas

Since the Hofstee spreadsheet was marginally out of range, in the interests of candidate fairness, the parameter of the 'minimum acceptable pass mark' was accepted as the raw pass mark for the exam (prior to +1 SEM being added as part of the normal process). The Hofstee graph is included for reference.

Figure 2: Hofstee plot New Delhi – SV



4 The objective structured clinical examination (OSCE)

There were six OSCE stations in all. The five clinical stations were held on different days to the Vivas (OSCE Station 6 held with the vivas). Stations 1-5 were held on the 29th of October, and station 6 on the 28th October. The OSCE stations were:

- Station 1:** Anterior Segment
- Station 2:** Glaucoma and Lid
- Station 3:** Posterior Segment
- Station 4:** Strabismus and Orbit
- Station 5:** Neuro-ophthalmology
- Station 6:** Communication Skills (takes place logistically with viva aspect of the exam)

4.1 Results

Table 6: Marks for the OSCE

Statistic	Value	Percentage
Pass mark (using Hofstee method)	111/198	56.1%
Mean score	113/198	57.1%
Median score	111.5/198	56.3%
Range	90 – 155	45.5% - 78.3%
Reliability (Cronbach's alpha)	0.814	
SEM (rounded)	8.35 (8)	4.2%
Final adjusted pass mark (+1 SEM)	119/198	60.1%
Final Pass rate	4 out of 8	50.0%

**Please note that the Final pass rate is presented, that includes any adjustments. All other analysis is based on original, unadjusted data.*

Figure 3: Distribution of OSCE scores (red line denotes pass mark)

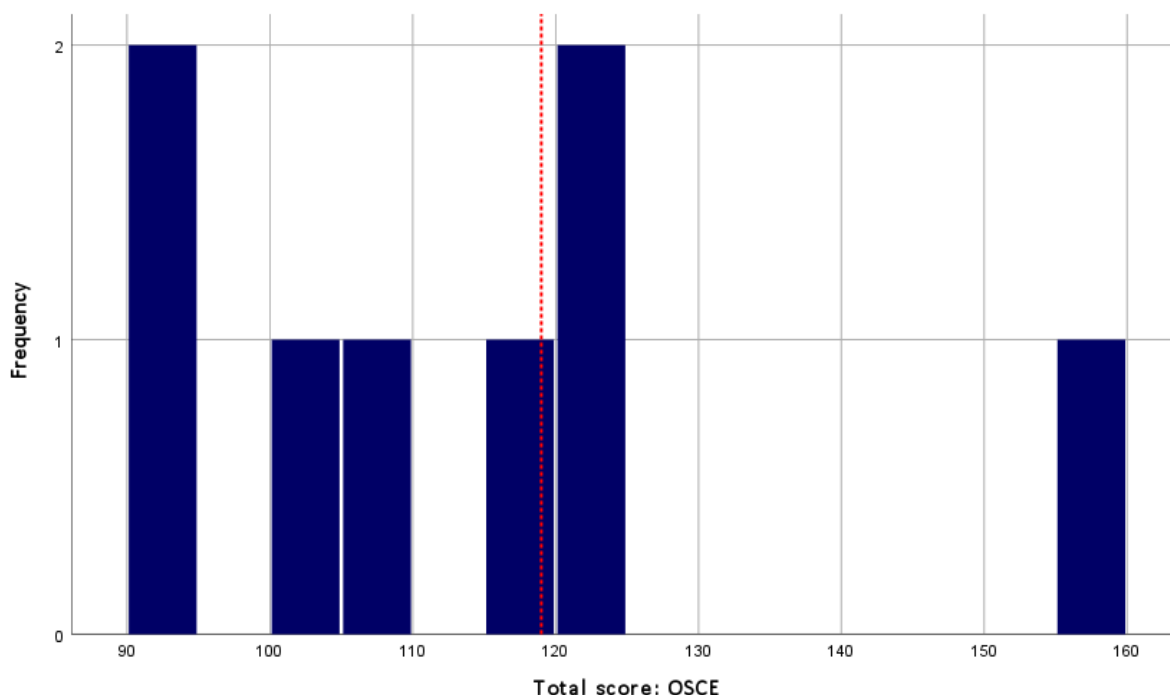


Table 7: Station Summary — OSCE

Station	Category	Maximum Possible	Mean	Median	Min	Max
1	Anterior segment	36	21.6	19.5	16	30
2	Glaucoma and lid	36	24.0	25.0	13	32
3	Posterior segment	36	20.8	20.5	13	32
4	Strabismus and orbit	36	18.4	19.0	12	22
5	Neuro-ophthalmology	36	16.3	14.5	7	33
6	Communication skills	18	12.0	11.5	7	18

Table 8: Correlation between examiners' marks at each station

Station	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3	Station 4	Station 5	Station 6
Category	Anterior segment	Glaucoma and lid	Posterior segment	Strabismus and orbit	Neuro-ophthalmology	Communication skills
Correlation	0.88	0.86	0.95	0.16	0.99	0.77

Table 9: Mean absolute difference in examiners' marks at each station

Station	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3	Station 4	Station 5	Station 6
Category	Anterior segment	Glaucoma and lid	Posterior segment	Strabismus and orbit	Neuro-ophthalmology	Communication skills
Mean absolute difference*	1.13	1.25	0.75	1.88	0.50	2.5

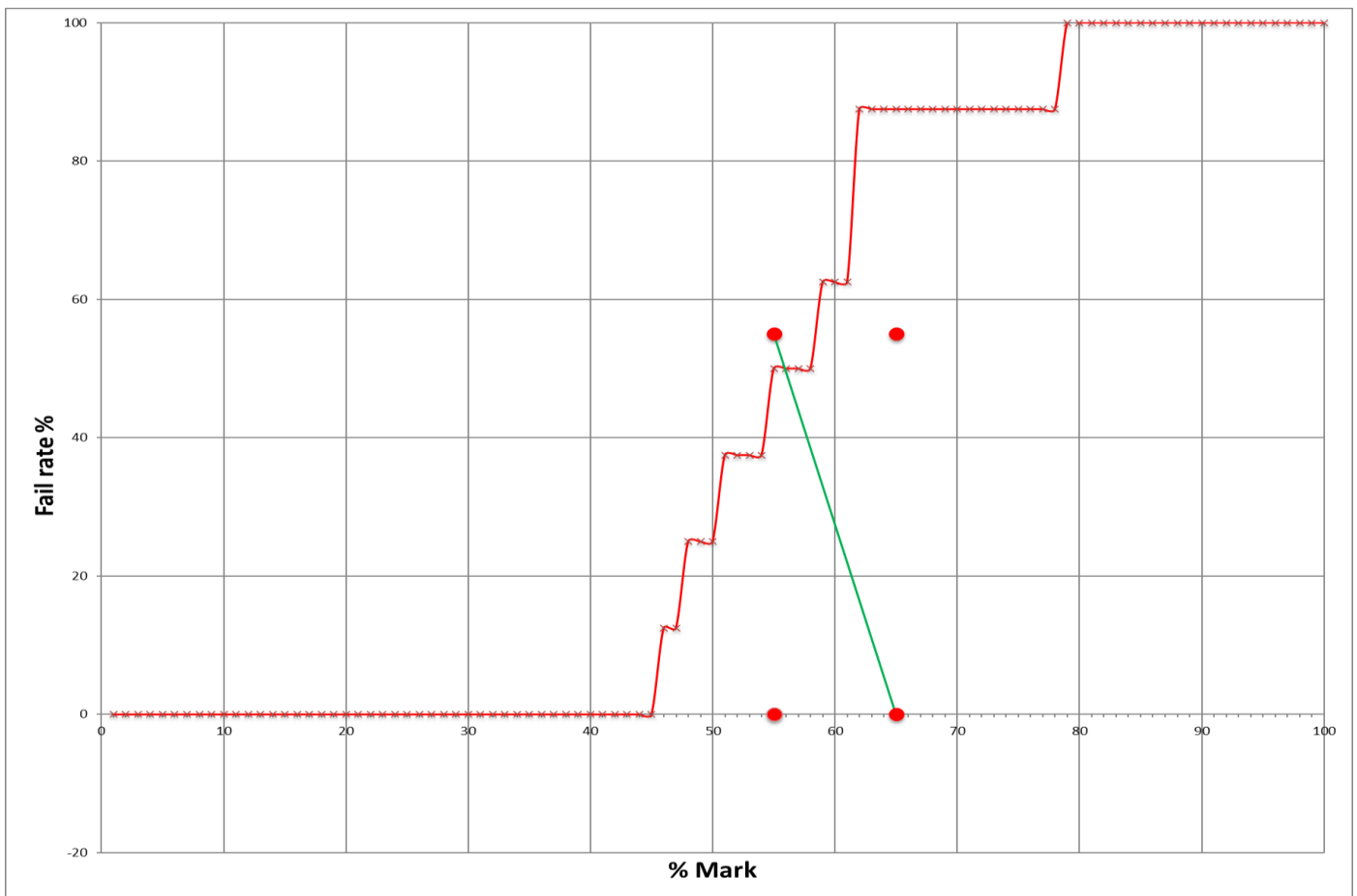
*The 'mean absolute difference' is the average difference between Examiner A and Examiner B scores for each station

Table 10: Correlation between OSCE stations

	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3	Station 4	Station 5	Station 6
Station 1						
Station 2	-0.03					
Station 3	0.75	0.02				
Station 4	0.47	-0.19	0.36			
Station 5	0.10	0.55	0.54	0.17		
Station 6	0.43	-0.44	0.46	0.35	-0.03	

4.2 Standard setting for the OSCE

Figure 4: Hofstee plot New Delhi – OSCE



5 Overall results for the oral examination

5.1 Results

Table 11: Overall results summary

Statistics	Value	Percentage
Pass Mark	190/318	59.7%
Mean	184.4/318	58.0%
Median	181/318	56.9%
Range	142-250	44.7% - 78.6%

To pass the oral examination candidates had to either:

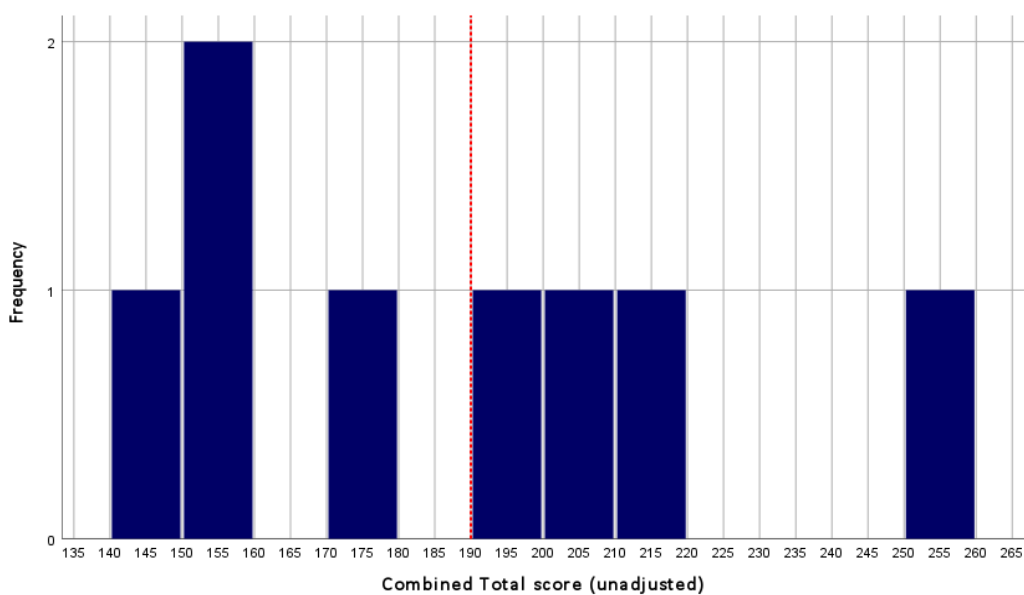
- i) pass both the viva (71/120 (59.2%)) and OSCE (119/198 (60.1% percent)) *or*
- ii) pass the OSCE, achieve at least 66/120 (55%) in the viva, and achieve $\geq 190/318$ (59.7%) overall.

Overall, four out of eight candidates passed the Part 2 Oral examination this diet.

Table 12: Pass rates

Statistics	Value	Percentage
Overall pass rate for the oral examination	4/8	50.0%

Figure 5: Distribution of total scores (red line denotes overall pass mark)



5.2 Comparison to previous examinations

Table 13: Comparison to previous examinations

Date	Candidates	Viva pass mark	Viva reliability	OSCE pass mark	OSCE reliability	Oral pass rate	Oral pass rate in OST
Oct 23 – New Delhi	8	59%	0.9	60%	0.8	50%	n/a
Oct 23 - Athens	11	62%	0.9	64%	0.7	46%	n/a
Jul -23	20	64%	0.8	65%	0.9	65%	n/a
Apr-23	158	65%	0.7	63%	0.8	61%	86%
Nov-22	120	64%	0.8	60%	0.8	62%	n/a
Apr-22	114	62%	0.7	63%	0.8	68%	91%
Nov-21	119	60%	0.6	61%	0.8	73%	85%
Apr-21	74	62%	0.7	64%	0.8	77%	84%
Mar-21	46	58%	0.8	60%	0.8	70%	94%
Nov-20	86	62%	0.4	64%	0.8	74%	85%
Nov-19	85	67%	0.7	60%	0.8	71%	80%
Apr-19	84	63%	0.6	64%	0.9	64%	79%
Nov-18	106	58%	0.8	64%	0.8	58%	74%
Apr-18	74	62%	0.8	60%	0.8	70%	80%
Apr-17	105	61%	0.8	63%	0.8	66%	82%
Nov-16	107	60%	0.8	63%	0.8	71%	84%
Apr-16	61	63%	0.8	63%	0.9	56%	69%
Nov-15	72	61%	0.8	62%	0.8	69%	86%
Apr-15	77	60%	0.9	60%	0.9	62%	80%
Nov-14	79	63%	0.8	62%	0.7	63%	70%
Apr-14	104	57%	0.8	61%	0.8	58%	65%
Apr-13	109	60%	0.8	63%	0.8	57%	56%
Nov-12	103	58%	0.9	61%	0.8	58%	64%

The MCQ examination has been de-coupled from the oral examination since April 2014

Table 14: Cumulative results by deanery (September 2010 to date; not including Nov 22 data)

Country	Deanery	Number of passes	Number of candidates	Pass rate (%)
UK	East Midlands	58	80	73.8
	East of England	75	122	61.5
	East of Scotland	13	14	92.9
	London and KSS (Kent, Surrey, and Sussex)	322	422	76.3
	Mersey	65	89	73.0
	North of Scotland	10	18	55.6
	Northwestern	74	119	62.2
	Northern	62	80	77.5
	Northern Ireland	18	23	78.3
	Oxford	50	60	83.3
	Peninsula (Southwest)	26	46	56.5
	Severn	48	63	77.4
	Southeast of Scotland	26	31	83.9
	Wales	47	77	61.0
	Wessex	41	68	60.3
	West Midlands	86	137	62.8
	West of Scotland	42	62	67.7
Yorkshire	93	141	66.0	
OS	Eire	2	3	66.7
	Europe and Overseas	25	61	41.0
		1183	1716	68.9