

Dip UMC RCS Ed Study Guide

Introduction

Candidates are advised to look at all the documentation included in the application section of the website. In addition, further information on the exam is available on the FPHC website in the Urgent Care section of the My FPHC tab <https://fphc.rcsed.ac.uk/my-fphc/urgent-medical-care/about-the-dipumc-exam>

Candidates should carefully consider and aim their preparation towards the level of the examination as outlined in the exam documentation namely:-

- Skills for Health Career Framework Level 7 - People at level 7 of the career framework have a critical awareness of knowledge issues in the field and at the interface between different fields. They are innovative, and have a responsibility for developing and changing practice and/or 7 services in a complex and unpredictable environment. Indicative or Reference title: Advanced Practitioner

In terms of this exam that more specifically would mean:

- Understand the principles and their application to Urgent Care, by clinicians who have day to day responsibility for its provision. As an example clinicians should be able to demonstrate the immediate management of clinical and non-clinical problems which, occur in the community, that may be referred by colleagues or are exceptional to normal provision.

Assistance

As this is a new exam and The FPHC are keen to assist candidates in their preparation. We are offering to discuss the exam personally with candidates and potential candidates. Should you wish to use this service please contact the Faculty office to arrange fphc@rcsed.ac.uk

Examination Structure and advice

The exam consists of a 3 hour paper consisting of 180 Structured best answer (SBA) questions. As these questions are testing the application of knowledge the stems, of the questions, are longer than those of questions that test only knowledge. Candidates are advised to consider this in advance and ensure they manage their time appropriately to ensure they answer all the questions.

Structured Oral Questions. This exam lasts 3 hours during which candidates complete 12 structured oral questions. Structured Oral questions are likely to cover more than one theme of the exam syllabus. They are likely to require the demonstration of complex or integrative reasoning.

Pass Mark

The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh prides itself on the quality and reliability of its examinations. For this reason all questions are standard set and closely monitored by the College psychometricians. For this reason no pass mark can be published and results are not available for at least 4 weeks after the exam.

Indicative Distribution of Questions

Single Best Answer Questions

1	Working in Urgent Medical Systems	10%
2	Practising Urgent Medical Care	60%
3	Using Technology in Urgent Care	5%
4	Managing Safe Dispositions	10%
5	Risk Management	10%
6	Urgent Care Preparedness	5%

Structured Oral

1	Working in Urgent Medical Systems	10%
2	Practising Urgent Medical Care	30%
3	Using Technology in Urgent Care	10%
4	Managing Safe Dispositions	20%
5	Risk Management	20%
6	Urgent Care Preparedness	10%

The two cross cutting themes of Human Factors and Operational Practice will be picked up across all the above areas.

Preparation for the exam

- The exam tests the application of knowledge, reading alone is unlikely to be sufficient preparation. It is expected that candidates sitting the exam will already have experience of working in the Urgent Care environment and that preparation for this diploma will focus on looking at the syllabus and identifying gaps in their experience and addressing these. It is suggested that a variety of methods may be required. Including discussion with others planning to sit this exam or who are experienced Urgent Care clinicians. Successful candidates have specifically recommended this approach. A suggested approach is to identify areas where you feel development is require and use some of the resources outlined below. These could include books or journals, on-line resources or contact with individuals or organisations relevant to your preparation.

Study Resources suggested include:-

- Standard texts
- On-line resources
- Spending time with colleagues who work in specific areas identified in the syllabus (e.g. injuries, call centres).

As an example previous candidates spent time with:-

- An Accident and Emergency clinician as they felt they lacked experience in dealing with injuries
- An NHS 111 call centre to achieve an understanding of how this functions

For some themes of the syllabus spending time with colleagues/ other providers of care will be a much more effective method of preparation than reading.

Information Sources

The following list is not comprehensive but is aimed as a guide.

Providing Urgent Medical Care

NB Where reference is made to NHS England guidance or English and Welsh Law (e.g. Cold and Hot Weather planning and Mental Health Legislation) candidates from Scotland and Northern Ireland can reference their own guidance and legislation in their answers.

NICE Guidelines <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance>

NICE Clinical Knowledge Summaries <https://www.nice.org.uk/cks-uk-only>

SIGN Guidelines <https://www.sign.ac.uk/our-guidelines.html>

NHS Choices <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions>

Patient <https://patient.info>

Resuscitation Council Guidelines <https://www.resus.org.uk/resuscitation-guidelines/>

Scottish Palliative Care Guidelines <https://www.palliativecareguidelines.scot.nhs.uk/>

Mental Capacity Act

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/435512/MHA_Code_of_Practice.PDF - Chapter 13

<https://www.gpnotebook.co.uk/simplepage.cfm?ID=1617625156&linkID=6779&cook=no>

Managing Safe Dispositions

<https://sitrem.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13049-017-0409-6>

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10903127.2018.1549628>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK506843/>

https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/sites/default/files/2017-11/John%20Black%2031.101.17%20pdf_1.pdf

Urgent Care Preparedness

<https://www.jesip.org.uk/home>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/801539/Heatwave_plan_for_England_2019.pdf

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/748492/the_cold_weather_plan_for_england_2018.pdf

Human Factors

<https://www.rcsed.ac.uk/professional-support-development-resources/learning-resources/non-technical-skills-for-surgeons-notss>

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/clinical-topics/patient-safety-and-human-factors>

Operational Practice

<https://www.gmc-uk.org/ethical-guidance/ethical-guidance-for-doctors/good-medical-practice>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/urgent-emergency-care/>

Further Reading

For other sources recommended by previous candidates go to <https://fphc.rcsed.ac.uk/my-fphc/urgent-medical-care/about-the-dipumc-exam>. Please note these are only recommendations from other candidates they are not recommendations by The Faculty of Pre- Hospital Care.

Experience in the application of knowledge could be gained by interaction with:-

Minor Illness Units

Minor Injuries Units

Walk-in centres

Homeless GP service

GP minor treatment centres

Mental Health providers (Including a visit to section 136 or equivalent if provided in your area)

999 call centres

111 call centres

Palliative care providers

Infection Control clinicians

Duty directors of Urgent care organisations

Duty Social Workers

Acute re-enablement team

Clinical information officers

Coroner

Laboratory clinicians regarding near patient testing

NHS Ambulance Services

Candidates may wish to access their own organisation's:

- Risk assessment
- Business continuity plans
- Significant event meetings
- Safeguarding policies

Sample Questions

Can be found at:-

<https://www.rcsed.ac.uk/view?id=e29ded7a-9bac-47a1-a371-0ae5eb2c9261&type=exam>

<https://www.rcsed.ac.uk/view?id=5f5effb6-02ea-4105-932c-064432dd0b08&type=exam>