Specialty Certificate Examination (SCE) in Neurology 2023
Selected Examination Metrics

The 2023-1 SCE in Neurology was sat in February 2023 by 136 candidates of whom 45 were self-declared UK trainees. Candidates who did not declare their training details are reported as 'Other' (91).

The 2023-2 SCE in Neurology was sat in October 2023 by 140 candidates of whom 36 were self-declared UK trainees. Candidates who did not declare their training details are reported as 'Other' (104).

From 2022 examination the group of trainees self-declared as OTH (Other) was excluded from UK trainees cohort and equating calculations.

Pass Mark

The Neurology 2023 examinations were equated using 2019 UK trainees’ performance excluding OTH, in line with all the other SCEs. The 2019 examination will represent the base form to which all future exams will be linked to.

The standards of the examination were reviewed in September 2022 and the pass score was increased from 409 to 416, which has been applied from 2023. All future examinations will use 416 as the passing score until the standards are reviewed by the SCE Neurology Examination Board.

For the 2023-1 SCE Neurology examination the pass mark was set at 416 (56.6% or 111/196) and for the 2023-2 examination the pass mark was set at 416 (57% or 114/200).

UK trainees’ performance

In 2023-1 ST5 had the highest sitting number (19) and a pass rate of 94.7%.
In 2023-2 ST5 & ST6 UK trainees had the highest sitting numbers (10 in each) and a pass rate of 60% and 80% respectively. In 2023-1 the pass rate for all UK trainees was 75.6% and 56.6% for all candidates. In 2023-2 the pass rate for all UK trainees was 72.2% and 63.6% for all candidates.
The numbers at the top of the bars are the number of sitting trainees

Topic performance

In 2023-1 UK trainees had their highest percentage of correct answers in Disorders of the spinal cord and motor neurone disease (73.6%) and in Disorders of the cranial nerves and visual system (73.3%) and their lowest in Neuro-genetics, neuro-endocrinology, neuro-toxicology, neuro-urology, neuro-otology (46.7%).

In 2023-2 UK trainees had their highest percentage of correct answers in Cerebrovascular disease (75.2%) and their lowest in Management (neuro-surgery, intensive care, neuro-rehabilitation, clinical pharmacology (56.1%).

Data labels on the chart represent number of questions per topic.
In 2023-1 Other candidates had their highest percentage of correct answers in Neurophysiology, neuroradiology, neuropathology (65.2%) and their lowest in Neurogenetics, neuroendocrinology, neurotoxicology, neuro-urology, neuro-otology (45.4%).

In 2023-2 Other candidates had their highest percentage of correct answers in Cerebrovascular disease (69.8%) and their lowest in Cognitive and behavioural neurology (48.3%).

Data labels on the chart represent number of questions per topic.
MRCP(UK) Research unit
February 2024

Other mean percent correct (%)