Entry to the examination hall will be on the basis of admit card only. The admit card should be displayed on the candidate’s white coat throughout the examination.

Regarding the examination

There are two components of this examination.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENTS</th>
<th>TIME ALLOWED</th>
<th>MAX. MARKS</th>
<th>MIN. PASS MARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. CLINICAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Long case</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30 minutes for history taking and clinical examination</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30 minutes for discussion</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Short cases</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(four cases)</td>
<td>(includes both examination and discussion)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. TOACS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Toacs</td>
<td>20 stations, 2 min for each</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Projections</td>
<td>20 Projections, 2 min for each</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CLINICAL**: To be held in batches on day-2 and onwards. These will consist of one long case and four short cases.

1. **LONG CASE** *(10 marks .................. 60 minutes)*

Each candidate will be allotted one long case and allowed 30 minutes for history taking and clinical examination. Candidates should take a careful history from the patient (or relative) and after a thorough physical examination identify the problems which the patient presents. During this period the candidate will be observed by the examiners.

Case presentation and discussion on the long case will be conducted jointly by two examiners for 30 minutes. In this section the candidates will be assessed on the following areas:

**Interviewing skills**
- Introduces one self, listens patiently, and is polite with the patient.
- Is able to extract relevant information.

**Clinical examinations skills**
- Takes informed consent.
- Uses correct clinical methods systematically (including appropriate exposure and re-draping).
Case Presentation/Discussion
- Presents skillfully.
- Gives correct findings.
- Gives logical interpretation of findings
- Discusses differential diagnosis.
- Enumerates and justifies relevant investigation(s).
- Outlines and justifies treatment plan (including rehabilitation).
- Discusses prevention and prognosis.
- Has knowledge of recent advances relevant to the case.

During case discussion the candidates may ask the examiners for laboratory investigations which will be provided, if available. Even if they are not available and are relevant candidates will get the credit for the suggestion.

2. SHORT CASES (10 marks ................. 40 minutes)
Candidates will be examined on at least four short cases for a total of 40 minutes jointly by the two examiners. Candidates will be given a specific task to perform on patients, one case at a time. Two minutes time is kept for changeover from one case to another.

Each candidate will be evaluated on a specific task assigned for completion in a specific time. The findings, their interpretation and a management plan (if required) will be presented to the examiners. During this part of examination the candidates will be assessed on his/her clinical skills, correctness of findings, interpretation of findings and ability to draw scientific conclusions.

TOACS (20 marks)
Task-Oriented Assessment of Clinical Skills (TOACS) will be held on the first day of the examination at the same time, at all centres, for all the candidates declared eligible for clinical part of the relevant examination. Candidates will be sent information regarding the schedule of TOACS by the Examination Department.

In the TOACS the candidates will be evaluated on procedures, x-rays, laboratory findings, instruments, specimens etc. This component of examination will consist of The following two parts:
- Twenty TOACS stations (10 marks) with 2 minutes allowed at each station. The candidate will rotate through all these 20 stations and is required to answer question about the presented material at each station.
- Twenty projections (10 marks) consisting of Echocardiograms and Angiograms will be shown to the candidates who will be allowed 2 minutes to answer the questions about each projection.

In addition to the detailed instructions enclosed, the candidates will also receive verbal instructions at the time of the examination.
DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS

1. Entry with admit card only. The candidates must display their admit cards on their white coats throughout the examination.

2. Response sheet:
   - Prior to entering the examination hall each candidate will be provided with a response sheet. Candidates must write their roll number on the response sheet before starting TOACS examination.
   - The candidate will only carry his/her response sheet while rotating through the stations. No other papers will be allowed in the examination hall.

3. The candidate is not supposed to remove any document or material from any station.

4. Each station will carry equal weightage. Every station must be attempted.

5. A specified time will be allotted at each station which will be signaled by a bell.

Conduct of Examination

i. TOACS: All candidates appearing in the clinical on the first day of the examination:

   1. The examination is in the form of a circuit. At the start the candidate would occupy the station allocated to him / her according to their roll numbers, and will move to the next station when the bell rings.

   2. At these stations clear instructions would be written and the candidate is expected to read the instructions and act accordingly.

   3. The candidate will be presented with the data relevant to cardiac patients (e.g. ECG, X-Rays, Nuclear and CT scans, Cath. & other Lab data) and asked to write answers about the presented material at each station.

   4. Candidates will rotate through the stations in this way till they have completed the circuit. They will move only in one direction as displayed in the hall by arrow marks and will not be allowed to go back to the previous station.

ii. PROJECTIONS: Twenty projections, as described earlier, will also be shown to the candidates as second part of first days examination.

   - The performance of each candidate will be assessed by the examiners by marking their answers according to the Keys preferred in advance. The candidates are required to score minimum passing marks in the aggregate of all stations. Securing minimum pass marks at each station is not required.