

## FCS(SA) Intermediate Examination Blueprint for Paper 2: Principles of Surgery in Surgical Specialties

Update 03 SEP 2020

**Impact:** Implication to life and organs if not recognized and managed appropriately.

Impact	Score
Immediately life threatening	4
Life threatening (delayed)	3
Organ or limb threatening	2
Trivial	1

**Frequency:** How often is a practicing likely to encounter it?

Frequency of occurrence	Score
Common (daily to weekly)	3
Frequent (weeks to 3 months)	2
Rare (more than 3months)	1

**Impact factor:** Impact x Frequency

**Grading of Level of Competence: 1–4**

Level of competence	Descriptor
Level 1	Diagnose and refer
Level 2	Diagnose, stabilize and refer
Level 3	Diagnose, stabilize, institute emergency management and refer
Level 4	Diagnose and institute definitive management

### Examination Formats

Question Item	Description	Percentage Weighting
SBA MCQs	Total of 120 questions	

Content Area	Topics	Learning Objectives	Level of Competence	Competencies	Weighting by total number of questions in Paper 2 SBA MCQs
1. General Surgery (Impact Factor =12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Approach to patient presenting with an acute abdomen</li> <li>b) Presentation, differential diagnoses, diagnostic investigations and management of intra-abdominal sepsis</li> <li>c) Presentation, differential diagnoses, diagnostic investigations and management of upper and lower bowel obstruction (oesophagus to anus)</li> <li>d) Presentation, differential diagnoses, risk factors, diagnostic investigations and management of GIT bleeding</li> <li>e) Presentation, differential diagnoses, diagnostic investigations and management of skin and soft tissue infections</li> <li>f) Presentation, differential diagnoses, diagnostic investigations and management of common solid organ malignancy</li> <li>g) Classification and use of surgical drains and suture materials</li> <li>h) Evaluation and management of the jaundiced patient</li> </ul>	See curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Level 3</li> <li>b) Level 3</li> <li>c) Level 3</li> <li>d) Level 3</li> <li>e) Level 3</li> <li>f) Level 2</li> <li>g) Level 4</li> <li>h) Level 3</li> </ul>		32
2. Neurosurgery (Impact Factor = 8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Evaluation including classification and principles of management of a patient who sustained Traumatic brain injury</li> <li>b) Diagnosis and management of raised intracranial pressure</li> <li>c) Diagnosis, classification and management including complications of intracranial infections</li> <li>d) Presentation, investigations and management of brain tumours</li> <li>e) Presentation, investigations and management of intracranial bleeding</li> <li>f) Diagnosis and management of hydrocephalus</li> <li>g) Presentation and diagnosis of congenital malformations</li> </ul>	See curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Level 3</li> <li>b) Level 3</li> <li>c) Level 3</li> <li>d) Level 3</li> <li>e) Level 2</li> <li>f) Level 2</li> <li>g) Level 2</li> </ul>		8

<p>3. ENT (Impact Factor = 6)</p>	<p>a) <i>Principles of management of trauma to ear and upper aerodigestive tract</i>  b) <i>Differential diagnosis of acute upper airway obstruction</i>  c) <i>Presentation and management of foreign bodies in the ear, nose and upper aerodigestive tract</i>  d) <i>Presentation, differential diagnoses and management of ENT infections</i>  e) <i>Causes and management of epistaxis</i>  f) <i>Risk factors, presentation and management of sinusitis</i>  g) <i>Indications, procedure and complications of tracheostomy</i></p>	<p>See curriculum</p>	<p>a) Level 3  b) Level 3  c) Level 3  d) Level 3  e) Level 3  f) Level 3  g) Level 4</p>	<p>See syllabus</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>4. Ophthalmology (Impact Factor = 4)</p>	<p>a) <i>Principles of management of trauma to the eye including corrosive injury</i>  b) <i>Presentation, classification and management of peri-orbital infections</i>  c) <i>Causes and management of bleeding into the eye</i>  d) <i>Ophthalmic manifestations or complications of common surgical conditions</i></p>	<p>See curriculum</p>	<p>a) Level 3  b) Level 3  c) Level 3  d) Level 3  e) Level 4  f) Level 2</p>	<p>See syllabus</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>5. Maxillofacial Surgery (Impact Factor = 4)</p>	<p>a) <i>Principles of management of facial fractures</i>  b) <i>Diagnosis and management of facial infections</i>  c) <i>Difficult airway</i></p>	<p>See curriculum</p>	<p>a) Level 4  b) Level 3</p>	<p>See syllabus</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>6. Orthopaedic Surgery (Impact Factor = 9)</p>	<p>a) <i>Investigations, diagnosis and management spinal injuries</i></p>	<p>See curriculum</p>	<p>a) Level 2  b) Level 2</p>	<p>See syllabus</p>	<p>5</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) <i>Diagnosis and management of fractures and dislocations</i></li> <li>c) <i>Presentation and management of pelvic fracture</i></li> <li>d) <i>Presentation, diagnosis of fat embolism syndrome</i></li> <li>e) <i>Presentation and management of compartment syndrome</i></li> <li>f) <i>Presentation, diagnosis and management of septic arthritis and osteomyelitis,</i></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) <i>Level 2</i></li> <li>d) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>e) <i>Level 4</i></li> <li>f) <i>Level 2</i></li> </ul>		
7. Urology (Impact Factor = 12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Presentation, diagnostic investigations and management of urogenital system trauma</i></li> <li>b) <i>Predisposing factors, diagnosis and management of urinary tract infection</i></li> <li>c) <i>Differential diagnoses and management of acute scrotum</i></li> <li>d) <i>Classification, differential diagnosis and investigations of haematuria</i></li> <li>e) <i>Presentation and investigations of nephrolithiasis</i></li> <li>f) <i>Presentation and diagnostic investigation for common urogenital tumours</i></li> <li>g) <i>Presentation of common congenital anomalies of the urogenital system</i></li> <li>h) <i>Management of urinary retention</i></li> </ul>	See curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>b) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>c) <i>Level 4</i></li> <li>d) <i>Level 2</i></li> <li>e) <i>Level 2</i></li> <li>f) <i>Level 1</i></li> <li>g) <i>Level 1</i></li> <li>h) <i>Level 3</i></li> </ul>		5
8. Cardiothoracic Surgery(Impact Factor = 9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Presentation, investigations, management and complications of blunt and penetrating chest trauma</i></li> <li>b) <i>Indications, peri-operative management of a patient for cardiac bypass surgery patients</i></li> <li>c) <i>Diagnoses, presentation and management of pleural and pulmonary infections</i></li> <li>d) <i>Differential diagnoses, investigations and management of pleural effusion</i></li> <li>e) <i>Interpretation of chest X-ray</i></li> </ul>	See curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>b) <i>Level 2</i></li> <li>c) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>d) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>e) <i>Level 4</i></li> </ul>		7
9. Vascular Surgery (Impact Factor = 9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Presentation, diagnostic investigations and management of blunt and penetrating vascular injury</i></li> </ul>	See curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>b) <i>Level 3</i></li> </ul>		8

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) Risk factors, presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations and management of acute arterial occlusion</li> <li>c) Risk factors, presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations and management of chronic arterial occlusive disease</li> <li>d) Risk factors, presentation, differential diagnosis, investigations and management of aneurysmal disease</li> <li>e) Presentation and investigations in vasculitis including HIV associated vasculitis</li> <li>f) Indications for lower limb amputations</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) Level 2</li> <li>d) Level 2</li> <li>e) Level 2</li> <li>f) Level 3</li> </ul>		
10. Pediatric Surgery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Preparation for transport of a neonate</li> <li>b) Venous access and fluid therapy in paediatric patients</li> <li>c) Differential diagnoses and investigations of neonatal jaundice</li> <li>d) Differential diagnoses, presentation, investigations and management of GIT obstruction in infants and children</li> <li>e) Differential diagnoses, presentation, investigations and management of acute abdomen in paediatric patients</li> <li>f) Differential diagnoses, presentation, investigations and management of abdominal wall defects in newborn babies</li> <li>g) Differential diagnoses, presentation, investigations and management of common solid organ malignancies in infants and children</li> <li>h) Presentation and management of umbilical and inguinal hernia in paediatric patients</li> </ul>	See curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Level 3</li> <li>b) Level 4</li> <li>c) Level 2</li> <li>d) Level 2</li> <li>e) Level 2</li> <li>f) Level 2</li> <li>g) Level 1</li> <li>h) Level 3</li> </ul>		7
11. Plastic Surgery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Classification of suture materials including staplers</li> <li>b) Mechanism of action and appropriate use of energy devices</li> <li>c) Wound healing process and causes of poor wound healing</li> <li>d) Principles and options available for wound closure</li> <li>e) Presentation and classification of surgical site infection</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Level 4</li> <li>b) Level 4</li> <li>c) Level 4</li> <li>d) Level 3</li> <li>e) Level 4</li> </ul>		8

<b>12. Obstetrics and gynaecology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Normal physiological changes in pregnancy</i></li> <li>b) <i>Evaluation, differential diagnoses and management of acute abdomen in pregnancy</i></li> <li>c) <i>Investigations and management of polytrauma in pregnancy</i></li> <li>d) <i>Differential diagnosis, investigations and management of hyperthyroidism in pregnancy</i></li> <li>e) <i>Presentation, differential diagnoses and management of pelvic inflammatory disease</i></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Level 2</i></li> <li>b) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>c) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>d) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>e) <i>Level 3</i></li> </ul>		<b>3</b>
<b>13. General Oncology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Mechanism of action, indications and preparation for chemotherapy including complications</i></li> <li>b) <i>Mechanism of action, indications and preparation for radiotherapy including complications</i></li> <li>c) <i>Mechanism of action, indications and preparation for hormonal therapy including complications</i></li> <li>d) <i>Mechanism of action, indications, preparation for diagnostic and therapy with a radioisotope including complications</i></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>b) <i>Level 2</i></li> <li>c) <i>Level 2</i></li> <li>d) <i>Level 2</i></li> </ul>		<b>5</b>
<b>14. Transplant</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Classification of transplants and grafts</i></li> <li>b) <i>Diagnosis and confirmation of brain death</i></li> <li>c) <i>Common immunosuppressive drugs used including side effects</i></li> <li>d) <i>Types and manifestations of rejection</i></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>b) <i>Level 3</i></li> <li>c) <i>Level 2</i></li> <li>d) <i>Level 1</i></li> </ul>		<b>3</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>100%</b>

