



C M S A

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JOHANNESBURG OFFICE
EXAMINATIONS & CREDENTIALS

FC PATH(SA) MICRO PART 2 BLUEPRINT

EFFECTIVE FIRST SEMESTER 2023

FORMAT OF THE WRITTEN EXAMINATION

The written examination will consist of two papers, each worth 100 marks.

The overall pass mark is 50%. The subminimum for Paper 1 is 50% and for Paper 2 is 50%.

Each paper will consist of:

- **Single Best Answer (SBA)** multiple choice questions (MCQs) to a total of 20 marks. Each SBA-MCQ will be worth 1 mark and will contain 4 options – one correct option and three distractors.
- **Short Answer Questions (SAQ)** to a total of 80 marks. SAQs will be 5 marks each. While there is no formal restriction on the length of the answers, the broad expectation is one paragraph (about 50 words) for a 5-mark question.

All questions in each paper must be answered.

CONTENT OF THE WRITTEN EXAMINATION:

NOTE: Virology will comprise 10-15% of the written examination, although some questions will integrate bacteriology and virology. Candidates are expected to include appropriate virology information into the answer where relevant

Paper 1:

- Fundamentals of microbiology (including bacteriology, mycology, parasitology and virology) including pathogenesis of infection, virulence mechanisms, microbial genetics, antimicrobial resistance mechanisms and immunology (45-55 marks)
- Clinical microbiology including clinical syndromes, epidemiology of infection, diagnostic approach and antimicrobial therapy (45-55 marks)

Paper 2.../

Paper 2:

- Laboratory methodology including specimen collection and transport, microscopy, laboratory media, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, molecular diagnostics, serology and interpretation of laboratory tests (35-45 marks)
- Laboratory management including quality management, accreditation, data handling, evaluation and validation of tests, laboratory safety and needs analysis/budgets (20-30 marks)
- Prevention and control of infections in the hospital and community including principles of infection prevention and control, antimicrobial stewardship, policy development, surveillance, notifiable diseases, outbreak investigation and immunisation (30-40 marks)

**Johannesburg
June 2022**