



Blueprint for Emergency Surgery

The purpose of these figures is to outline the proportion of questions from each category that candidates will be asked in the examination (i.e. 5% would be on pre-operative care).

Although there may appear to be some overlap between the specific conditions and the other topics, this would not be the case in practice. For example, a question about an elderly patient with septic shock, peritonitis and a mass in the right upper quadrant due to a perforated gall bladder could cover assessment and management, investigation or preoperative care, but would not be a specific HPB (hepatopancreaticobiliary) question. In contrast, a specific HPB question might test knowledge of the anatomical variants of the cystic duct, pathophysiology of cholecystitis, incidence of gall bladder carcinoma or the classification of Mirizzi's syndrome.

'Environmental injuries' is a broad category that would include hypothermia, burns, blasts, bullets and bites.

Initial assessment & management	18%
Investigation	4%
Preoperative care	5%
Definitive treatment	16%
Post-operative management	10%
Specific conditions:	
Skin & soft tissue	5%
Abdomen: HPB, GI	20%
Vascular	3%
Musculoskeletal	5%
Gynaecology	2%
Urology	3%
Paediatrics	3%
Environmental injuries	2%
Thorax	2%
Professional skills	2%
Total:	100%