



# Breast Surgery EBSQ Examinations

## The Exam: Format

**Phase 1: Eligibility assessment:** *on line submission*

**Phase 2: MCQ examination** *(usually end of June)*

**Phase 3: Oral examination** *(usually last weekend in September)*

# Breast Surgery EBSQ Examinations

## **Part A:** Written exam (MCQs): web-based



## **Part B:** Oral exam

- ✓ Case discussion 1
- ✓ Case discussion 2
- ✓ Review of a scientific paper on breast surgery

# The web-based “written” exam

- continuous supervision
- e-methods to avoid cheating

1

Log in



Username .....

Password .....

SIGN IN

2

## IDENTIFICATION CARD



ID 189234567

NAME  
SURNAME

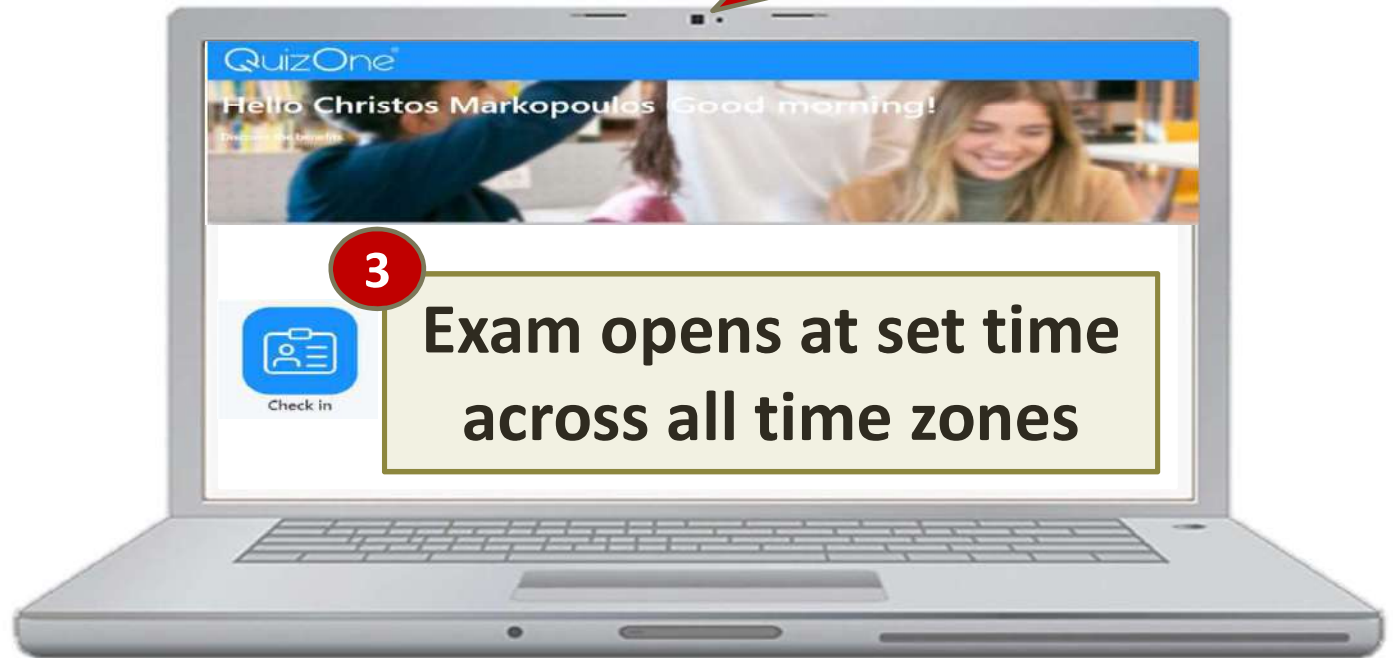
1234 MAIN STREET  
CITY, 67890

SEX	HAIR	EYES
HGT	WGT	

John Doe

3

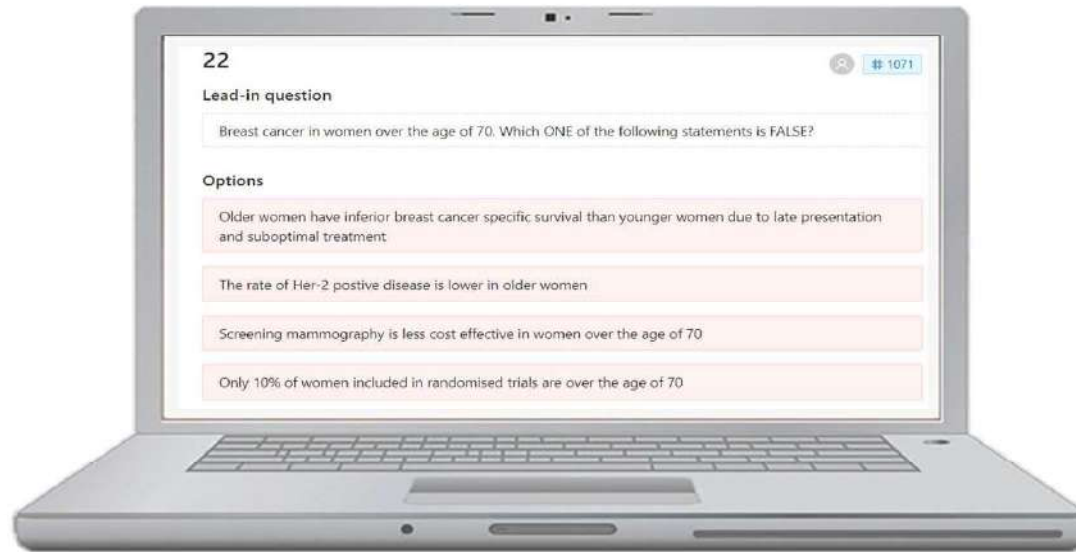
Exam opens at set time  
across all time zones



**Important!**

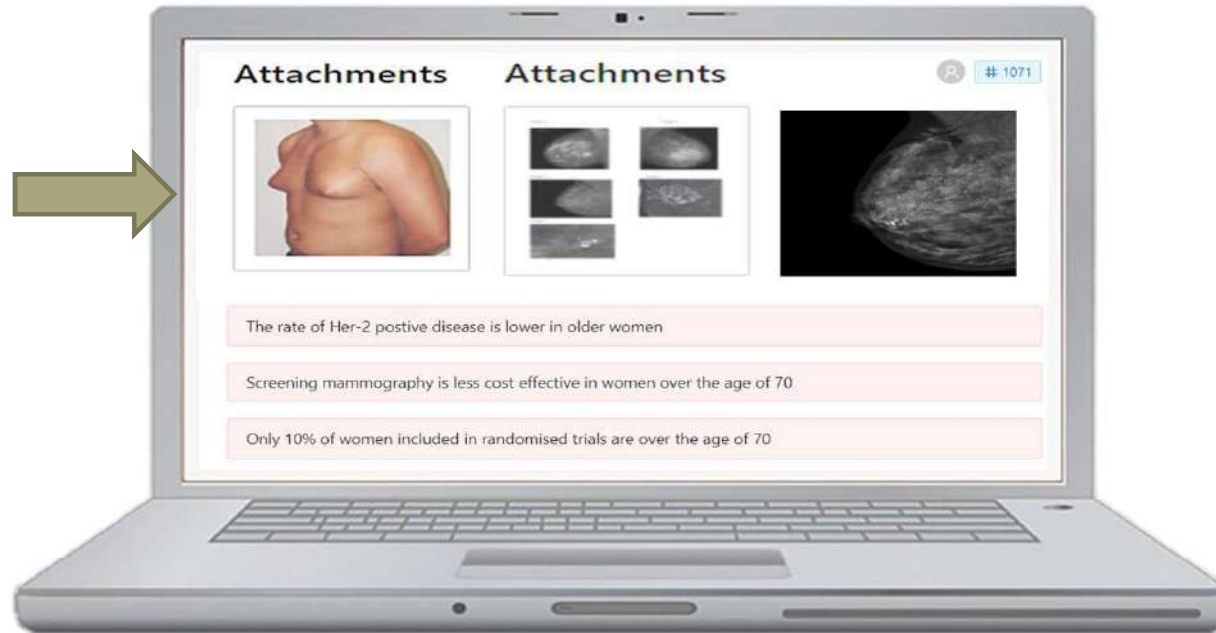
- Strong internet connection
- Latest update version of your browser

# The web-based “written” exam



- **50 MCQs**; total time allocated is **120 minutes**
- **Can scroll between questions** back and forwards, mark as unsure to be reminded to go back before you finish
- **Usually 5 options, only one correct** - “**best of five**” principle
- **No negative scoring** for wrong answers

# The web-based “written” exam



- Pass rate variable, usually  $\approx 60\%$ , calculated each time using an international standard-setting procedure (*Anghoff Scoring*)
- Results by e mail, approximately within 1 week
- **Only if MCQ is passed you can progress to the Oral exam**

# The Oral exam



**COVID Impact!**



*or*



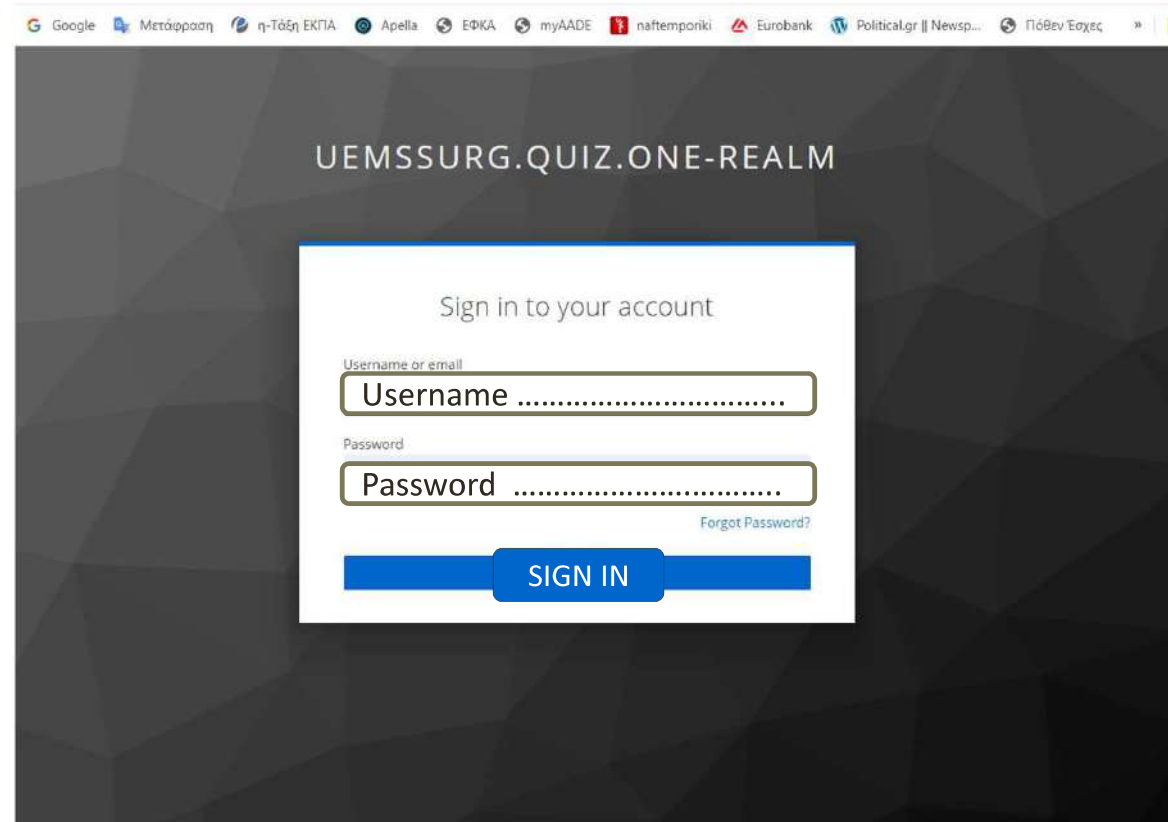
- ✓ **Case discussion 1** (30 minutes)
- ✓ **Case discussion 2** (30 minutes)
- ✓ **Review of a scientific paper on breast surgery**  
(paper given 48h before the exam, 30 minutes)



# The **virtual** Oral exam

## What will you need?

- A room where you can be alone for about 2 hours
- A **PC** or **laptop** with a **camera** & **audio** and **good internet speed**
- Recent version of **Google Chrome** or **Safari** (mac users)
- A **photographic ID**

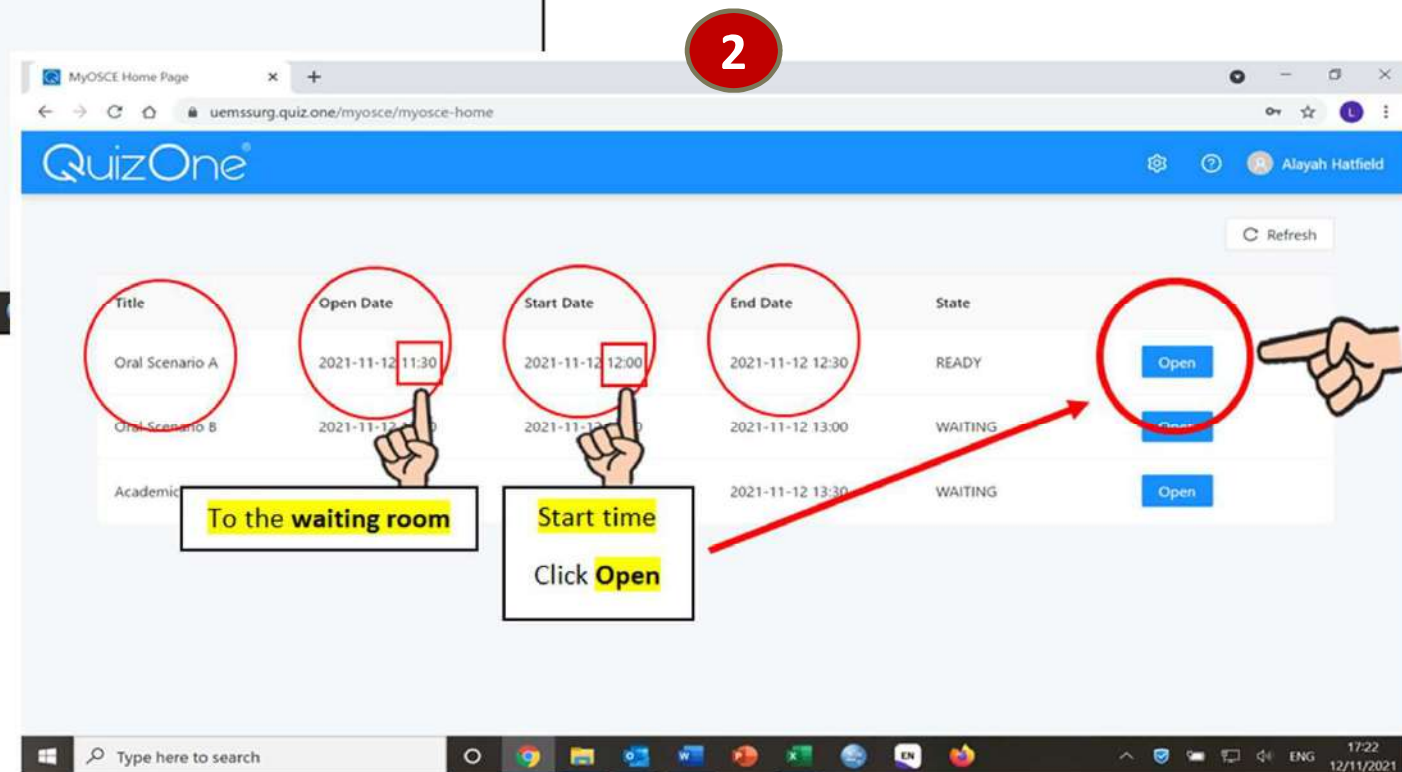
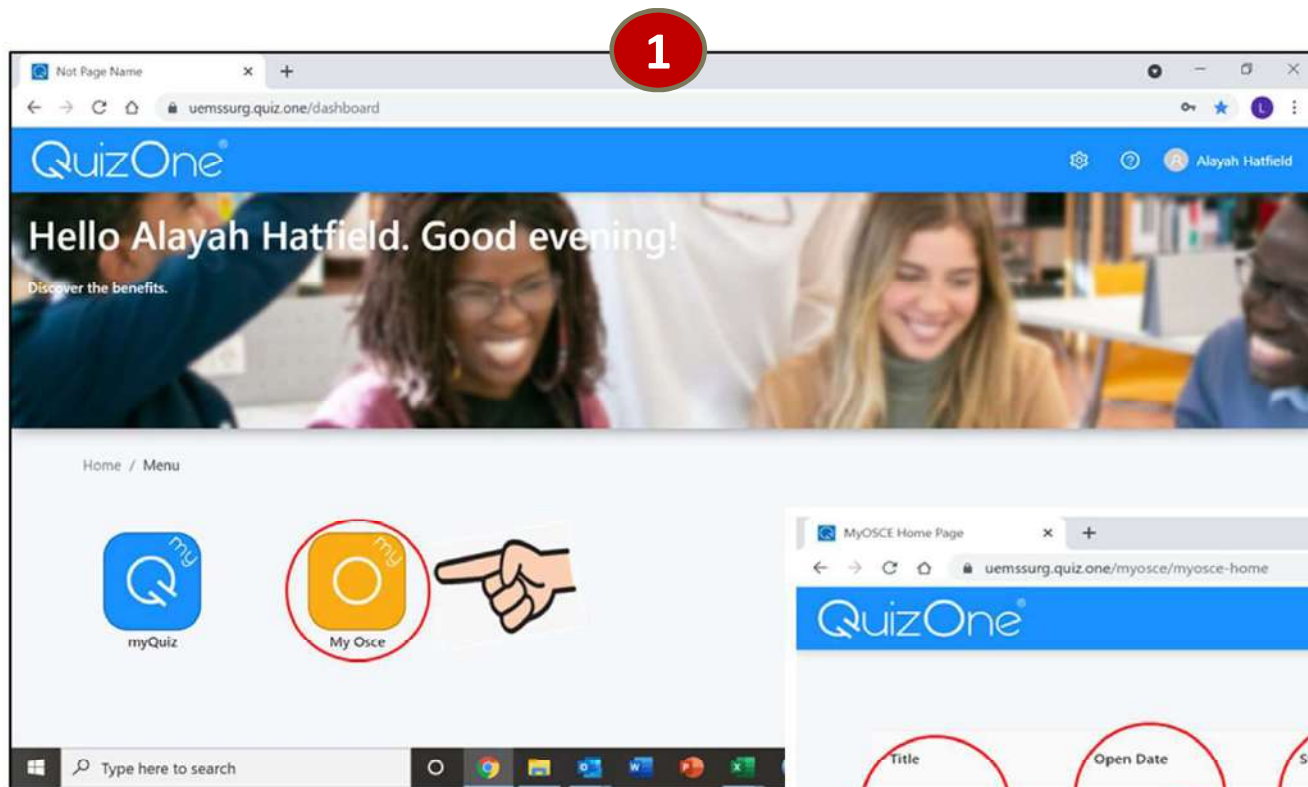


30 minutes before



your **personal exam start time**, go to the exam website

URL: <https://uemssurg.quiz.one/>





**Quality Assurance Monitor  
or a trainee examiner**

Zoom In

Zoom Out

Reset

**Scenario A:**

61 years old married woman, from the Philippines. She is mother of 2 children, 29 and 26 years old, post-menopausal since the age of 52 and never had HRT. She has no personal medical history, no family history of breast or ovarian cancer. She never had a screening mammogram or clinical breast examination.

**Question 1:** What would do next?

**Examiner 1**

**Examiner 2**

**Candidate**



Type here to search



# The Oral exam



## ✓ Case discussion

- 10 questions
- 2 examiners  
scoring independently:

**2 points**: expected answer, effectively supported

**1 point**: knowledge of the subject but, answer different from guidelines; however, “reasonable” and well supported

**0 points**: completely wrong answer, different to international guidelines, no knowledge of the subject

# Oral Clinical Exam

- Stations with 2 examiners, 30 minutes per station over 2 days.
- Very much like a mock MDT discussing an interesting case with a senior colleague.
- Candidates are given a scenario and then 10 questions, which may include the interpretation of imaging and clinical photography.

# Academic Paper Viva

- 30 minute Viva with 2 examiners about a recent academic paper.
- Paper sent out to candidates 48 hours before the exam.
- Structured questions focussing partly on methodological quality and study design and partly on clinical impact and interpretation.
- Previous papers have included the Z11 trial and Tailor X

# Final results

- Given on the **same day**  
*(or within **14 days** for the **virtual exam**)*
- **Pass rate** for the EBSQ exam is:  
70-75% for the MCQ *and*  
80-85% for the Oral exam
- **Certificates** and **prizes** given in person

# What do you get?

- Able to use title:  
‘Fellow of the European Board of Surgery’ - **FEBS**

