



UNION EUROPEENNE DES MEDECINS SPECIALISTES  
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

SECTION & BOARD OF SURGERY - COLOPROCTOLOGY DIVISION

## GUIDANCE NOTES

### EBSQ Coloproctology examination

#### Introduction

The candidate for the EBSQ title in coloproctology should be a future opinion leader in the management of colorectal diseases in his hospital and/or country. Profound knowledge, including current literature of all colorectal and proctological diseases will be tested to become an EBSQ Coloproctology certified specialist.

#### 1. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

All applicants must be from or currently working or have been trained in an European Union UEMS (UNION EUROPEENNE DES MEDECINS SPECIALISTES) or associated UEMS country ([www.uems.eu/about-us/membership](http://www.uems.eu/about-us/membership))

#### 2. CERTIFICATE OF SPECIALIST TRAINING

Candidates must provide a photocopy/scan of a valid Certificate of Completion of Specialist Training (CCST) or equivalent certificate issued by the relevant body governing the legal CCST in the appropriate national country, i.e. an European Union UEMS, or associated UEMS, country.

*Note: If visiting trainees have trained within a country defined above and had a similar training to those who can subsequently take the CCST, even though such candidates may not be allowed to take the CCST for reasons of refusal of permanent residence, they should be deemed equivalent to CCST and be acceptable as candidates for the EBSQ. The EBSQ Certificate will denote that it is without national cost and does not confer right of domicile.*

#### 3. TRAINING

The minimum acceptable duration of training for EBSQ COLOPROCTOLOGY is **7 years**. This must include a minimum total of 5 years in specialist surgical units. Candidates must have completed **2 or more** extra years in coloproctology. Experience acquired as a specialist or consultant on a unit with senior or more experienced colleagues may be taken into account, but at least one year of advanced training must be undertaken in a **nationally recognised unit**. Trainers should be **ideally EBSQ certified**.



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#### 4. EBSQ Coloproctology examination - PART 1 : ELIGIBILITY

For EBSQ Part 1 the candidates **eligibility** to take the examination will be checked. Requirements regarding the operative experience, the application form, all other required documents and a checklist are listed on the internet site of the UEMS: [www.uemssurg.org](http://www.uemssurg.org)

#### 5. EBSQ Coloproctology examination - PART 2 : the actual EXAMINATION

EBSQ Part 2 will include a written case discussion and two “viva voce” examinations with two pairs of EBSQ certified examiners.

1.1. The **written part** is a case description (**in English**) with several questions regarding assessment of the patient and treatment options. Questions will also include current literature and/or ongoing studies. Answers must be given by writing. This test is limited to **one hour**.

1.2. **General part:** The first oral examination is a **30 minutes** session of clinical case discussions with interpretation of diagnostic tools, specimen analyses and local status. You will be shown a picture and asked specific questions regarding diagnosis, treatment options and outcome. This part will test your clinical knowledge.

1.3. **Academic part:** During this **30 minutes session** a current publication will be discussed. You will receive the paper (**in English**) **one hour before** the start of the oral examinations. You will be asked specific questions in regards to interpretation of this paper, similar to a review of a submitted manuscript. Knowledge on basic statistics will also be tested during this part.

The two oral parts (5.2 and 5.3) can be taken in several languages as listed on the UEMS website. Languages may vary from examination to examination. Check the website! The paper will always be in English.

**To pass the examination**, the candidate has to pass all three parts ( $\geq 60\%$  correct answers/points) and have an average score  $\geq 66\%$  points for the entire examination, while the written part counts double.

E.g. A) Written 70%, general 55%, academic 65% = candidate fails because general  $< 60\%$ . B) Written 61%, general 63%, academic 58%, overall 64% = candidate has passed all parts ( $> 60\%$ ), but still fails the examination because the overall score was  $< 66\%$ . C) Written 70%, general 75%, academic 65% = candidate passes the examination.



## 6. FEES

Candidates for the European Board of Surgery Qualification (EBSQ) are required to pay fees to the EBSQ Administration Office, via Paypal directly on the QuizOne web platform dedicated to registrations.

The fees include part 1 and part 2. Part 1 covers the administrative costs and the costs of assessing the applicant's eligibility. Part 2 covers the costs of the actual examination.

The eligibility fee is to be paid when the applicant registers for the certification.

The examination fee should be paid once the eligibility of the applicant has been confirmed, within two weeks following confirmation of selection, to finalise the registration for the examination.

Candidates must take into account that transfers can take up to three days to be processed.

All fees paid are non-refundable. The exam fee may be transferred to another exam sitting if more than 90 days' notice is given.

For those who have been assessed eligible, you may postpone for up to 24 months without having to pass and pay the eligibility assessment again. After 24 months you must go through the eligibility assessment again.

## 7. CANCELLATION

- **Cancellation/Postponement up to 90 days before the exam:**

Exam fee (if paid) postponed to next sitting + an admin charge of 90 euro will be charged when candidate re-apply for the exam.

- **Cancellation/Postponement less than 90 days before the exam:**

Exam fee is not transferred to the next exam and not refundable. When re-applying for the exam, the candidate must pay the exam fee again + 90 euros administration fee.

Reasonable cancellations within 90 days of the exam will be considered on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Board of Examination. Supporting documentation is required.

For those who have been assessed eligible, you may postpone for up to 24 months without having to pass and pay the eligibility assessment again. After 24 months you must go through the eligibility assessment again and pay its fee.

All fees paid are non-refundable. The exam fee may be transferred to another exam sitting if more than 90 days' notice is given.



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## 8. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

All documents must be submitted through QuizOne, the UEMS application web-platform.

- All information regarding the date, location, language and maximal number of candidates of every examination are listed on the UEMS website.
- The **deadline** for every (part 2) examination is listed on the website.
- The **number of candidates is limited** and may vary from examination to examination.
- Eligibility of an application (part 1) will only be reviewed by the board once **all required documents are provided and the entirety of the fees have been paid** (join proof of payment).
- Once these conditions are met, applications are treated by “**first-come, first-served**” principle. Incomplete applications or unpaid fees will result in delay of evaluation of your application.
- Confirmation to take the EBSQ examination will be sent individually to the candidate **latest one week after deadline** of the application. Please do not book flights or hotel before you have received confirmation from the UEMS office to take the part 2 examination at the requested dates. Provide a valid email that you check regularly!
- If the maximal number of candidates has been reached, all further eligible candidates are put on a **waiting list**. You will be informed periodically by the UEMS office if a candidate cancels.
- If an examination takes part during a meeting (e.g. ESCP), registration to that meeting is not necessary.
- The examination will be **cancelled** if there are **less than 10 candidates**. You will be notified within 3 weeks after the application deadline. Do not make travel arrangements before this date. If the examination is cancelled, eligible candidates can choose any other dates and will be on the priority list.