**EBCOG**

**European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology introduces**

**Formative Assessments-**

**A tool to assess your ongoing training and to get ready for European Fellowship in Obstetrics and Gynaecology Examination ( EFOG- EBCOG )**

1. **Introduction**

EBCOG is the Board of the Section of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS). Since 2016, EBCOG has established an examination which aims to assess the knowledge and clinical skills of medical doctors who completed their training in general Obstetrics and Gynaecology. The examination is based on the EBCOG curriculum (PACT – European Training Requirements). Successful candidates become European Fellows of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of EBCOG (EFOG-EBCOG).

The EBCOG formative assessments is a procedure for continually assessing trainees in general Obstetrics and Gynaecology during their training period. The purpose of the interim assessment is to assess the adequacy of knowledge according to the stage of training. This will help trainees to improve their deficiencies on one hand and also to prepare them for final exams on the other hand.

The EBCOG interim assessments have two levels reflecting early stages of training according to PACT within a five-year training programme: These assessments will provide a continuum of a process and trainees are encouraged to enrol for the full package.

♦ Assessment 1, after completing the first year of training

♦ Assessment 2, after completing the second year of training

For each level, passed candidates will be awarded a certificate as evidence of successful completion of the test, and satisfactory progress in the training programme. It must be noted that it does not mean that the successful candidates have acquired the certification within Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

The assessment tool is open to European and non-European candidates and will be conducted in English. The EBCOG Standing Committee on Examinations (SCE) is responsible for conducting the assessment, and trainees are selected on the basis of specific eligibility criteria after submitting their individual qualifications.

Please note that it is not mandatory to take part in these interim formative assessments before sitting for EFOG-EBCOG examination. These interim assessments are independent tools to help the candidate to prepare for the EFOG-EBCOG exams. Also, these

two levels of assessments are independent of each other, and candidates are advised to register for both levels of assessments. Senior trainees who join the programme, can rapidly progress through all levels of assessment much more quickly. However, the starting point for all candidates remains at level 1.

1. **Methods of assessment**

Formative assessments will be held twice a year electronically (on-line), without the physical presence of the candidates, in the months of January and July and will be conducted separately for the two levels. For each level, the test duration will be 60 minutes. Each assessment consists of two types of questions, i.e. Single Best Answer (SBA) and Extended Matching Questions (EMQ). For each assessment, there will be 15 SBA and 5 EMQ (3 scenarios each), but SCE has the right to change both the number of questions and the length of the examination.

The content of the questions will be according to the level of knowledge required for the respective years of training and will be determined by the content provided by the PACT.

1. **Application process**

Applications are submitted on-line. A paper version of an application is not acceptable. An application form is available on the EBCOG website and needs to be filled before submitted. The submission must include the appropriate documents. Information regarding the assessments and applications are uploaded several months before the day of the exams.

* 1. **Eligibility criteria**
* Candidates must have a primary medical degree
* Candidates must be listed on the Register of Medical Practitioners of their own country.
* It is recommended that the candidates take each Assessment at the end of respective years of their national training programme as described above.
* Although it is not mandatory, senior trainees who have already completed their training can also register for the full set of assessments, starting with first assessment. They can gradually move to the next assessment through the express route.

* 1. **How to apply**

Applications are submitted on-line together with the required documents scanned and countersigned. The following documents must be submitted:

1. Basic Medical degree certificate
2. Registration in the register of Medical practitioners
3. Photocopy of passport or identity card
4. A letter from the Head of Department confirming hospital proof of hospital post.
	1. **Fee for the Examination**

The fee to participate in the exam will be fixed by the SCE on a yearly basis. Following the submission of the application, no refund will be made for any reason.

* 1. **Future dates for the Examination**

Future dates for Level 1 and Level 2 assessments will be uploaded on the EBCOG website ([www.ebcog.org)](http://www.ebcog.org)).

1. **Preparation of candidates for the Examination**

Candidates should consult the EBCOG website to download the new curriculum (PACT). Internationally recognised textbooks along with international guidelines in Obstetrics and Gynaecology are useful resources to prepare for the examination. Candidates are also advised to visit EBCOG website ([www.ebcog.org](http://www.ebcog.org)) to access EBCOG publications.

1. **Instructions to the candidates**
2. Each level of the assessment has a computer-based paper, which all candidates will take on-line at home at the predetermined time of the exam.
3. Eligible candidates will have access to a “test exam” in the final week before the exam. It is mandatory that they run this “test exam” prior to the actual assessment. This will help the candidates to (a) verify that their computer is compatible with the requirements; (b) learn how to start the assessment, submit the answers and exit from the assessment and (c) familiarize themselves with the two types of questions, i.e. SBA and EMQ.
4. Information how to log-in together with a Log-in ID will be sent to all candidates at the same time with the “test exam”.
5. **Pass mark (standard setting)**

Pass mark is the lowest score required to pass the exam that discriminates between the candidates with sufficient and inadequate knowledge. Standard setting is the methodology used to calculate the pass mark. The modified Angoff method is being used.

1. **Dissemination of the exam results and number of attempts**

Candidates will be informed of their performance within 15 days of the assessment date.

Those who fail the test can try again. There is no restriction on the number of times a candidate can sit the assessments and there are no additional fees.