

ERPM PART A – CHANGES IN THE MCQ PAPERS AND THE MARKING SCHEME

1. The UGC has informed the SLMC that, commencing with the next ERPM Part A to be held from 20 May to 23 May 2013, the common MCQ papers in each “clinical” subject – Medicine, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Paediatrics and Surgery will have 20 MCQs of the True/False type and 30 MCQs of the Single Best Answer (SBA) type, a total of 50 questions in each paper.
2. The time allowed for answering each of these four papers will be 2 hours as at present.
3. The existing system of awarding marks for the T/F type of MCQs will be retained, i.e.,
 - (a) One mark (+1) for each correct answer
 - (b) Minus mark (-1) for each incorrect answer
 - (c) Zero mark if there is no response
 - (d) If the total mark for a given question is negative, it will be made zero
4. For the SBA type MCQs, 3 marks will be awarded for each correct answer and zero marks if the answer is incorrect or there is no response; the total mark of 90 will be converted to a percentage mark.
5. Each paper will carry 200 marks as at present: 100 from the T/F type MCQs and 100 from the SBA type MCQs.
6. The format of the combined paper (Community Medicine, Pathology and Forensic Medicine) will not be changed. There will be 10 MCQs of the T/F type in each of the three subjects – a total of 30 MCQs. The marking will be as for the T/F type MCQs in the “clinical” subjects – a total of 150 marks.