

THE COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRISTS



HIGHER QUALIFICATIONS Examination Content

Glaucoma B

42 Craven Street, London, WC2N 5NG
Telephone: 020 7839 6000 Fax: 020 7839 6800
Email: hquals@college-optometrists.org
Website: <http://www.college-optometrists.org>

Examination Format

Certificate: **Glaucoma B**

Clinical portfolio:

The portfolio, which must be submitted to the College Higher Qualifications Co-ordinator no later than the advertised deadline, is to include 6 records showing different management and follow-up issues relating to the glaucomas (e.g. progression in disc/field status, first time medical treatment, side effects of treatment, switch/additional medication needed in current patient, referral for laser/surgical intervention). Candidates are expected to provide a discussion of 500-1000 words for each case, and should support this with reference to the scientific literature.

Candidates are reminded that Certificate B requires a specialist level of knowledge and experience to work independently in Glaucoma Co-Management Service, and an understanding of the relevant anatomy and physiology of the normal eye; a knowledge of the pathophysiology of the glaucomas and their relation to treatment.

Examples of case records by different authors can be found in the College library. These are for reference only.

Further details regarding general presentation and content of the portfolio are to be found on page 4 of this guide. Please remember in particular that copies of original records must be included in the portfolio.

Two complete copies of the case records and all documentation are to be submitted.

Assessment will be in the form of a 1 hour viva.

Written examination:

The written examination will take the form of a 1.5 hour paper consisting of 30 short answer questions, covering any aspect of the syllabus.

Station Examination:

The station exam (1 hour) consists of two sections, one relating to investigative techniques for glaucoma diagnosis and monitoring and the other relating to glaucoma management.

Section 1 (30 mins) (50%)

Candidates will be presented with 3 scenarios (10 mins each) that will be made available to the candidate under supervised conditions immediately prior to the station exam. Written responses will be required to questions relating to each of these three stations.

- A: Serial Humphrey Field Analyser plots in a case showing *possible* progression, along with other clinical and biographic information. (40%)
- B: Serial conventional disc images showing *possible* progression, along with other clinical and biographic information. (40%)
- C: A plot/print-out from a specialist investigative technique (e.g. HRT, GDx, OCT, ORA etc). (20%)

For each case, the examiner will ask a series of predetermined questions directly related to the scenario/images as presented to the candidate.

Section 2 (30 mins) (50%)

Candidates will be presented with 2 wider case scenarios on the clinical management of the glaucomas. Each case will be made available to the candidate under supervised conditions prior to the station exam. The case will include a 1-2 side description of a patient with glaucoma/suspect glaucoma and include full clinical and demographic details (i.e. intraocular pressure, visual field plots, disc photographs etc). For each case, the examiner will ask a series of predetermined questions directly related to the scenario presented and issues covered will relate to the syllabus for module 3 (management of the glaucomas). No written responses will be required for the station 2 scenarios.