

THE COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRISTS



HIGHER QUALIFICATIONS Examination Content

Orthoptics B

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Examination Format

Certificate: **Orthoptics 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 case studies. The cases must have been followed up for at least 6 months and must include at least one from each of the following categories:

1. Heterotropia
2. A patient who has been prescribed prisms
3. A patient under the age of 6 years or over the age of 60
4. A paresis or paralysis of one or more of the vertically acting muscles
5. Nystagmus

Further details regarding general presentation and content of the portfolio are to be found on page 4 of this guide.

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

Assessment is to 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 examination (1 hour) is detailed further on the following page.

Patients in the station examination will be no younger than 5 years of age and no older than 70 years. Patients will have two functioning eyes, but may or may not have a binocular vision anomaly (with the exception of station 4). If patients do not have binocular vision anomalies or do not exhibit typical responses during the tests, then the examiner may ask "what if" questions. When appropriate, candidates will be told the refractive errors of the patients.

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Station 1 Motility testing (10 mins)

The candidate should bring a suitable fixation object.

Station 2 Cover testing in primary and diagnostic positions of gaze measurement with prism bar for primary glare. (10 mins)

The candidate should bring an occluder and near fixation object.

Station 3 Spot light and red-green goggles (5 mins)

The exam centre will provide red/green goggles. The candidate should provide a pen torch or, at the candidates' discretion, a bar light.

Station 4 Analysis of Hess and Lees screen plots (15 mins)

The candidate will be expected presented with 4 plots to analyse and must identify the principally affected muscle.

Station 5 Parks three-step test or similar approach (10 mins)

The exam centre will provide a trial frame, trial lens prisms, maddox rod, distance spotlight. The candidate does not have to use this equipment.

Station 6 Test of sensory status in strabismus (10 mins)

The candidate will be allowed to choose whether they use Bagolini lenses or the large OXO on a near Mallett Unit. Equipment for both methods will be supplied by the exam centre (the Bagolini lenses will be mounted in typical trial case rims). Candidates may bring their own lenses if they prefer. Visual acuities and cover test results will be made known to the candidate.

Equipment List

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Candidates need to provide:

- Occluder for cover test,
- Near fixation object (e.g., “budgie stick”),
- Pen torch.
- Candidates may elect to provide retinoscopes with a near fixation object, if this is their preferred method of measuring accommodative lag.

Examination centre will provide:

- Trial lens prisms and loose prisms
- Hess screen and Lees screen with the usual recording sheets
- Red and green goggles
- Maddox rod
- Distance spotlight
- Two trial lens No 2 and two No 4 Bagolini lenses
- Near Mallett unit (of fairly recent design that includes the large OXO test)
- ND filter bar