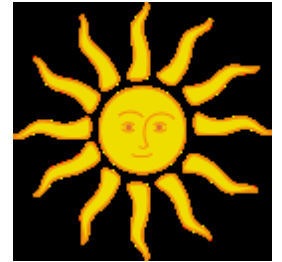


## Board of Examiners Newsletter Summer 2019



### Dear Examiners, Educational Supervisors & Specialty Advisors

Welcome to the summer newsletter for the Board of Examiners, from the Officers of the Board of Examiners (OBoE).

### Dip Pharm Med Exam 2019

The papers for this year's exam are in the final stages of preparation and we appreciate the contributions of Board of Examiners members in setting and reviewing questions. Volunteers for invigilating and marking will be shortly informed as to which task(s) have been assigned to you.

### Certificate of Pharmaceutical Medicine

New for this year is the introduction of the CPM. Candidates will now be able to take the Part 1 of the DPM, the MCQ paper, as a stand-alone qualification. On passing, they will be awarded the CPM.

### Dates of the CPM/DPM Exams

- The closing date for entry to the DPM is **5<sup>th</sup> August 2019**. Candidates can apply online on the FPM [Website](#).
- Part 1 (MCQ paper) will be held on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019**.
- Part 2 (SAQ and Critical Appraisal papers) will be held on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019**.

### Candidates wishing to take the DPM

Generally, we observe that people taking both parts in the same year tend to have a higher pass rate in Part 2 than those who defer it to a subsequent year. DPM candidates should be aware that there is nothing lost in applying for both Parts 1 and 2 together, as the fee (minus an admin charge) for Part 2 is refunded in case of failure in Part 1. However, a successful candidate in Part 1 who did not apply for Part 2 cannot then change their mind and sit Part 2 that year.

### Board of Examiners AGM

The AGM for all BOE members will be held on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019**.

### Top Tips for examination candidates

Resources for candidates including past papers and our "Top Tips" can be found on the FPM website on the [Exam Guidance](#) page.

A few reminders:

1. Revise for the MCQ and SAQ and practice the CAP. Revision groups may help candidates.
2. Read the question carefully. Marks will not be awarded for information that does not address the question (even if the information is factually correct).

3. For both the SAQ and CAP papers, candidates are advised to:
  - Write in bullet point format.
  - Focus on quality not quantity.
  - Write as clearly as possible.
  - Be guided by the number of marks available for a question. Do not write a page for an answer worth 1 mark.

In the questions you may see the following terms used:

- **“List”, or “State”** meaning give a few words or a short sentence for each item - the “what”.
- **“Briefly describe”** meaning give a few sentences for each, addressing key features - the “what, where, why & how”.
- **“Define”** meaning explain what the terms mean or the concept in no more than a few sentences.
- **“Compare”** meaning give a few words or a short sentence giving the similarities and differences of one thing versus another. You can use a table for clarity.
- **“Comment”** means give your opinion. This is a common term we use in the Critical Appraisal Paper, where we want your opinion (i.e., critique on the paper). Often there are no ‘right’ or ‘wrong’ answers, but you should be able to support your opinion with reasoned discussion and/or evidence.

GOOD LUCK to all candidates from the Board of Examiners

## Officers of the Board of Examiners

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