

1. Rationale:

There are robust processes in place for MRCS Part B Examiners' appointment and ongoing quality assurance. RCSI's Court of Examiners Executive Committee has committed to developing Examiner Rotation Guidelines for this group to ensure the following:

- 1.1 That approved MRCS Part B Examiners have an opportunity/ are expected to be involved in a minimum number of exam and prep course diets in their nearest centre every year ('floor' which is intended to prevent under-utilisation)
- 1.2 That approved MRCS Part B Examiners have an opportunity/ are expected to be involved in a maximum number of exam and/ or prep course diets in their nearest centre every year ('ceiling' which is intended to prevent over-utilisation)
- 1.3 That there is a finite number of times unresponsive examiners will be invited to examine
- 1.4 That committed MRCS Part B Examiners have an opportunity to be involved in examination diets / prep courses in an overseas centre
- 1.5 That the examiner panel of approved MRCS Part B Examiners at each examination diet/ prep course diet is reflective of the diversity of the overall examiner group

2. Proposals:

The following is proposed in terms of the rotation of RCSI's Clinician and Basic Science Examiners for the MRCS:

- 2.1 Examiners can expect to be required to examine a minimum of two days every calendar year, which may include being involved as faculty in a Part B Prep Course
- 2.2 Examiners should ideally only be expected to examine and/ or be involved as faculty in a Part B Prep Course a maximum of six days every calendar year (does not apply to Supervising Examiners)
- 2.3 Examiners will be asked to examine on a regular basis. Instances where Examiners are unresponsive or decline to examine three times will be escalated to the Court of Examiners Executive Committee. Those who arrive late or do not attend an examination as scheduled will be reported to the COE Exec Committee also. The Committee will decide what steps to take in these situations, the ultimate sanction being the removal of an Examiner from RCSI Court of Examiners/ ICBSE/ JCIE databases and not inviting to examine again
- 2.4 Examiners who also contribute to the following should have an opportunity to be involved in MRCS Part B Exam/ Prep Course diets in an overseas centre (at the discretion of the Court's Chair):
 - ICBSE Committees and Sub-Committees
 - JCIE Committees and Sub-Committees
 - RCSI Operative Surgical Skills Courses
 - RCSI Specialty Training Courses
 - RCSI Professional Development Courses
 - RCSI MCh by Module/ MCh in Surgical Science and Practice
 - Intercollegiate Basic Surgical Skills Courses
 - Advanced Trauma and Life Support Courses
 - Care for the Critically Ill Surgical Patient Courses
- 2.5 While it is not practical for each exam diet to reflect the protected characteristics of the overall examiner group, it is recommended that at least four female Clinician/ Basic Science Examiners be used in each exam