

**Medical Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved at the meeting of Graduate-entry Medicine Education Committee 27 October 2017**

**Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation**

Preliminary Examination in Medicine (Part I)

**Brief note about nature of change:** Change to online submission of written work.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2017-18/pexaminmedi/administratorview/>.

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2017.**

And

**For first examination in Trinity Term 2018 (Part I)**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference 2.35 as follows:

The essay must be the candidate's own work. Candidates' tutors, or their deputies nominated to act as advisors, may discuss with candidates the proposed field of study, the sources available, and the method of treatment, but on no account may they read or comment on any written draft. Every candidate shall ~~sign~~submit a certificate to the effect that this rule has been observed and that the essay is their own work. The certificate, ~~sealed in a separate envelope,~~ should be addressed to the Chair of Examiners for the Preliminary Examination in Medicine Part I and submitted alongside the essay.

Amend citation reference 2.37 as follows:

The essay (~~two paper copies and an electronic copy~~) must be submitted via Weblearn (according to the instructions set out in the notification to candidates from the Chair of Examiners) ~~to the Chair of Examiners for the Preliminary Examination in Medicine Part I, c/o the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, not later than noon on the Tuesday of Week 0 of Trinity Term.~~

Amend citation reference 2.46 as follows:

The essay must be the candidate's own work. Candidates' tutors, or their deputies nominated to act as advisors, may discuss with candidates the proposed field of study as it relates to the patient, the sources available, and the method of treatment, but on no account may they read or comment on any written draft. Every candidate shall ~~sign~~submit a certificate to the effect that this rule has been observed and that the essay is their own work; ~~and the candidate's tutor or advisor shall countersign the certificate confirming that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, this is so.~~ The certificate, ~~sealed in a separate envelope, should be addressed to the Chair of Examiners for the Preliminary Examination in Medicine Part I and submitted alongside the essay.~~

Amend citation reference 2.48 as follows:

The essay ~~(two paper copies and an electronic copy)~~ must be submitted via Weblearn (according to the instructions set out in the notification to candidates from the Chair of Examiners) ~~to the Chair of Examiners for the Preliminary Examination in Medicine Part I, c/o the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford,~~ not later than noon on the Tuesday of Week 0 of Trinity Term.

### **Explanatory Notes**

At its meeting on 27 October 2017, the Graduate-entry Medicine Education Committee considered Examiners' Reports and a report on student feedback on the examinations conducted in Trinity Term 2017.

A concern was raised regarding the logistics for submission of coursework by candidates. The committee agreed that candidates should be required to upload submitted work to Weblearn according to the recently-agreed University procedures. Mrs Vreede agreed to investigate whether this could be introduced for the current academic year.

~~The committee recognises that these changes to the regulations should have been made before the students started on course. However, the administrative arrangements for the course have been disrupted by a number of staff changes over the last 24 months.~~

Student representatives at the Education Committee meeting were strongly in favour of this change. All students in Years 1 and 2 (57 students) have been consulted by a Weblearn survey. 75% of students responded to the survey. Of the students who responded, 95% were in favour of submitting work electronically. ~~5% (2 students) were in favour of submitting work in hard copy. One of these students gave their reason for this response as 'personal preference'. The other student did not give a reason.~~