

APPENDIX C – Instructions to candidates (EFN)

1. Neuropathological autopsy – including microscopical examination

(Time available - Session 1: 2 hours, Session 2: 1 hour - including report writing)

Please read the clinical history and macroscopic findings, and then examine the histological slides. .

In your answer book, please write up:

1. A full description of the neurohistological appearances.
2. Any further stains or tests (if any) that you feel are necessary.
3. Your neuropathological diagnosis and, if indicated, the differential diagnoses.
4. A clinico-pathological discussion of the diagnosis and the relationship of the pathological findings to the clinical history.

2. Neurosurgical biopsies – including CSF samples

(Time available 3 hours, including report writing)

This part of the examination is to test your ability either to arrive at an unequivocal diagnosis or to construct an appropriate differential diagnosis, to set out the evidence on which your opinion is based, and, if indicated, to state what further investigations (clinical or laboratory) will lead to the correct conclusion and why.

There are twenty cases with accompanying *brief* details. You should give the following in the form of a report to the referring physician or surgeon:

- description of the histopathological findings
- diagnosis (including WHO-2007 grade, when appropriate)
- indicate which additional investigations, if any, are NECESSARY to establish the diagnosis or to assist patient care

In your answer book, please write a microscopical report for each case, keeping the above aims in mind, in the style you would use in a diagnostic service setting.

3. Neuromuscular biopsies – including muscle biopsies & peripheral nerve biopsy

(Time available 1 hour, including report writing)

Please read the clinical history, and then examine:

1. The histological slides.
2. The electron micrographs.

In your answer book, please write up:

5. A full description of the histological (and ultrastructural) appearances.
6. Your neuropathological diagnosis and, if indicated, the differential diagnoses.
7. The thinking behind (discussion) your diagnosis / diagnoses.
8. Any other investigations that you feel are NECESSARY to establish the diagnosis or assist with patient management.

4. Intraoperative neurosurgical diagnosis

(Time available 45 minutes, including report writing)

This part of the examination is to test your ability either to arrive at an intra-operative diagnosis or an appropriate differential diagnosis for intra-operative guidance.

There are five/six smear preparations (H&E / Toluidine blue) with accompanying brief clinical details.

In your answer book, please write a microscopical report for each case in the style you would use in an intra-operative diagnostic service setting.