

Intercollegiate Committee for Basic Surgical Examinations (ICBSE)

Policy regarding checking candidates' MRCS Part A or DO-HNS Part 1 answer sheets

Background

Following exam diets of the MRCS Part A and DO-HNS Part 1, candidates may contact the college with whom they sat the exam asking for their answer sheet to be checked or remarked. The purpose of this policy is to outline the response that any of the four royal surgical colleges, should give to candidates who request for their MRCS Part A or DO-HNS Part 1 answer sheets to be checked following an examination.

Policy

ICBSE do not check or re-mark MCQ answer sheets as we are confident that our procedures are robust enough to be correct in the first instance.

The optical reader that scans the answer sheets throws up any ambiguities or faint markings at the time of scanning so there is an individual element of scrutiny at this stage. The results are then independently checked by an Educationalist and in the unlikely event of there being any discrepancies they are addressed at this stage.

The pass marks for the MRCS Part A and DO-HNS Part 1 are set once the exam has been sat. Any ambiguities in the question paper are identified through analysis of candidate responses and reference to candidate feedback and reviewed by an expert panel who are responsible for the quality control of the exam paper. If a question is found to be problematic, it is removed from the exam and will not affect a candidate's outcome.

Effective from: October 2019

Review date: October 2022