



The Royal College of Radiologists

Examiner Role Description

Role title	FRCR Clinical Oncology Part 1 Associate Examiner
Exam	CO First FRCR Part 1 (CO1)
Term duration	2 years
Application closing date	See RCR website

RCR exams are an internationally recognised benchmark of excellence as well as a vital element of UK training. The First FRCR (CO1) exam assesses knowledge of the basic sciences that underpin, and are essential to, clinical oncology practice including physics as applied to radiotherapy, radiobiology, cancer biology including molecular biology, the pharmacology of systemic anti-cancer treatments and medical statistics.

Examiners join the committee which is responsible for ensuring that the exam meets the needs of the approved oncology training curriculum and meet standards set by the GMC. For each subject area, a team of clinical oncologist examiners work alongside non-medical specialists in the field, assuring the quality and clinical relevance of exam questions and curriculum. The FRCR Part 1 examiners meetings provide great interactive opportunities for specialist examiners and clinical oncologists to develop challenging aspects of the evolving oncology practice and curriculum, and continuing professional development in understanding specialist and clinical principles underpinning clinical oncology practice.

Role Tasks

The main role of associate examiners is writing, reviewing and editing single-best-answer questions, ensuring that they are based on the approved curriculum.

Benefits

- **Make a difference** by ensuring UK and global candidates have gold-standard exam content that ensures future oncologists' competence.
- **Extend your professional network and meet new people** by collaborating with other clinical oncologist and non-medical specialist examiners, Officers and RCR staff.
- **Earn** CPD credits for work developing the exam.
- **Learn** more about RCR exams and develop personally via a comprehensive training and development programme including equality and diversity and question writing training.

Eligibility and term of office

Applicants must:

- Be Members of the RCR in good standing, who have completed FRCR CO2A and CO2B and either in training programme or within 2 years following CCT.
- Practice in the UK as a trainee within an approved training programme or consultant in UK having CCT within the last 2 years.
- Demonstrate that they have undergone appropriate equality and diversity training and are willing to abide by good practice in these areas.



- Be prepared to participate in induction, training, examiner appraisal and ongoing upskilling activities.
- Be willing to abide by the [RCR's Code of Conduct](#) and submit an annual appraisal summary for each year of the term of office.

The term of office is 2 years.

Time commitment and support

The associate examiners are required to dedicate approximately six days per year to the work of the Committee for question writing and development.

Associate examiners are expected to attend two FRCR Part I examiners board meetings a year, in March/April and in late September for a full day combining exam committee business in the morning followed by review of the previous exam sitting and question review in the afternoon. In collaboration with clinical oncology and specialist examiners, associate examiners will work collaboratively in four virtual half-day question writing meetings a year, usually in April/May and in October, to develop new and to update single-best-answer questions within the examination question bank. Associate examiners are expected to produce a minimum of 20 questions each year.

Support in the role is provided through the CO1 Chair/Vice-chairs and examiner colleagues, plus exams office staff including administrators responsible for examiner support and practical exam delivery.

Travel to the RCR in London will be required periodically for meetings. Travel and accommodation costs are covered in accordance with the [published policy](#).

Applications

Please complete the online application on the [RCR website](#). Applications must be supported by a current Head of Department by way of completing a supporter form. Applications are anonymised and ranked by a panel against pre-defined criteria; the College strives for examiners to be as representative as possible of body system specialist interests, clinical practice backgrounds and the distribution of UK training programmes.

If a conversation about the scope of the examiner role would be valuable, please contact the CO1 Chair Dr Mark Teo at mark.teo@nhs.net. For general enquiries, please contact Danielle Simms, Exams Engagement Officer, at danielle_simms@rcr.ac.uk.

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