



Roles and Responsibilities of the Exam Quality and Analytics (EQA)

The Exam Quality and Analytics (EQA), led by Gary Cole, PhD, manages the review and revisions of assessment processes and policies including the development of assessment techniques for candidates in Royal College programs as well as assessments for non-traditionally trained individuals. The unit focus is on in-training and assessment tools, with a particular concern for addressing the evolving needs of the assessment system through changes such as the Practice Eligibility Route (PER) to certification and other categories of Royal College recognition such as the Areas of Focused Competence (AFC) category. The Unit will play a supporting role as competency by design is implemented.

The unit also provides structural support for the operation of examinations including the spreadsheets used for recording marks and applying pass/fail rules, policy expertise for boards during exam administration and candidate formal reviews, quality assurance during examinations, training of examiners, and the creation of psychometric and candidate feedback reports. The EQA is responsible for special projects including the development of the Royal College exam development system (RCeds), online workshops/courses and provides statistical and research expertise for projects across the College; especially with regard to the implementation and analysis of online surveys.

Concurrently, the EQA coordinates the activities of the Examination Committee. The Examination Committee; a sub-committee of the Assessment Committee, is responsible for overseeing the specialty-specific examination boards and advises on all matters relevant to Royal College specialty examinations, including timing, content, and evaluation of exams.

The EQA coordinates the Workshop for Examination Board Chairs designed to support the chairs by providing updates on key issues, initiatives and directions of the Office of Specialty Education with regards to the Royal College assessment system. This is an opportunity to engage members in discussion about issues that affect their respective examinations and provide a forum to share best practices and other resources to assist them with their role as chair.

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