

EBIR Marks and Standards

A) MARKS

The candidate will receive either a “pass” or “fail” result.

To receive a “pass result”, the candidate must achieve a total percentage grade of 50% or above when the marks from the clinical case scenario examination and the general clinical practice examination are combined.

Assessment components:	Marks per section:
Clinical case scenario examination	Approx. 50 marks (50%)
General clinical practice examination	Approx. 50 marks (50%)

The pass-mark of the assessment will be calculated using the Angoff method. This is a criterion-based standard-setting practice, which requires a panel of experts individually judge each item based on relevance and difficulty. This method is in line with international best practice. Due to the method used, the pass-mark varies for each sitting of the examination.

B) EXAMINATION CONTENT

The assessment content includes all curricular items as per the [European Curriculum and Syllabus of Interventional Radiology](#). Each component of the examination is mapped to an assessment blueprint derived from the curriculum and syllabus.

<u>Clinical case scenario examination</u>
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- The clinical case scenario examination is a written assessment, comprising of 10 sequential items made up of 4-6 questions each (approximately 50 questions in total)
- The sequential items included in this exam are specifically designed to reflect a clinical case
- Each question is allocated equal marks, only full marks will be awarded
- Once a question has been answered, candidates are no longer permitted to return to that question

- Questions will be asked in the following formats:
 - Single best answer format: a question poses multiple alternative answers and the candidate must choose the best one
 - Multiple best answer format: a question poses multiple alternative answers. Several, but not all answers will be correct. The candidate must choose all of the responses which are correct
 - Place in order: a question poses multiple alternative options and the candidate must place them in the correct order

<u>General clinical practice examination</u>

- The general clinical practice examination is a written assessment, comprising of approximately 50 multiple choice questions
- Each question is allocated equal marks
- **Candidates can return to any question whether it be answered or unanswered**
- Questions will be asked in the following format:
 - Single best answer format: a question poses multiple alternative answers and the candidate must choose the best one

C) STANDARDS

The examination is conducted in remote, online-proctored format.

Duration:

The assessment duration will be approximately 4 hours with a break of 30 minutes between the two sections.

Candidates:

Candidates are required to have all of the necessary equipment, outlined on the [EBIR remote exams webpage](#) as well as in the EBIR Manual for Candidates provided to registered candidates.

Candidates are required to complete the mandatory system check and to follow all online-proctored examination rules.

For the exam day, and practice exam day, schedules will be clearly communicated to candidates well in advance. Times are indicated in CET or CEST. **Candidates are responsible for ensuring they start each section of the EBIR exam at their correct local time.** Candidates are required to adhere to the examination day schedule and timings with which they have

been provided. Failure to do so may result in the candidate being unable to participate in the examination.

Toilet breaks

Toilet breaks are not allowed during an exam section. For candidates who feel this is problematic, they must submit medical evidence of the same to ebir@cirse.org at least 8 weeks before the examination date. Please be aware there will be a 30-minute break between the two sections of the exam for toilet breaks.

Technical support & troubleshooting

If a candidate experiences technical difficulty with the use of the examination software (Maxexam), including installation or troubleshooting, etc., candidates should send an email to ebir@cirse.org or call +43 1 904 2003-77.

Online-proctored examination rules

For remote, online-proctored examinations, candidates:

- Must take the exam alone, without aid from others or other sources (other people, web sites, books etc)
- Must not have any other persons or pets in the room
- Must take the exam in a closed room where they will not be disturbed for the duration of the exam
- Must ensure the room is quiet, with no music or other sources of noise
- May not talk, sing, or make any noise during the exam
- Must not smoke or use e-cigarettes during the exam
- Must not leave the designated room during the exam
- May not use
 - study aids or textbooks
 - headphones
 - headsets
 - earplugs
 - watches or smart watches
 - a second computer or screen
 - pen/pencil and paper
 - a phone, mobile phone or smartphone
- May
 - use an external webcam
 - Have a beverage in a clear bottle or glass with no labelling, on their desk or workspace

- Must remain connected to the internet at all times. If a candidate's connection fails, they must reconnect immediately. Only very short lapses will be allowed. If candidates are disconnected for too long, this could result in the invalidation of their exam due to incapability of invigilating the exam.
- May not use or open any other applications or software other than the instructed EBIR examination application (Maxexam).
- May not use any screen-recording applications.

Exam violations and suspicious behaviour

After the exam has been completed, the IDs of all candidates are checked to confirm each candidate is the correct candidate taking the exam.

The recorded images, audio and screen activity from the candidate's devices are then reviewed based on parameters set by the EBIR Board of Examiners. If any suspicious behaviour is observed, the EBIR Board of Examiners reviews the material using a predetermined protocol. The Board of Examiners make a final decision on whether the candidate's observed behaviour is suspicious, and what outcomes this constitutes for the candidate and their examination attempt.

The proctoring system itself will never determine whether an exam violation has been committed. Also, the proctoring system will never stop candidates from taking the exam in case it registers suspicious behaviour.

The following are considered suspicious behaviour, and are therefore potential examination violations:

- whether the candidate looks away from the screen repeatedly
- whether the candidate gets up from their desk
- whether the candidate leaves the room
- whether the candidate uses any unapproved aids (e.g. headphones, study materials etc.)
- whether other persons can be seen
- whether the candidate talks
- whether other people can be heard talking
- whether there is excessive background noise that cannot be explained
- whether the candidate uses applications or software other than the specified examination software
- whether the candidate has a second or third monitor

After the examination

Results

In order to ensure the strict quality of the examination, each examination and each question undergoes extensive analysis post-exam. Due to the level of analysis required to ensure the reliability of candidates' results, it takes approximately four to six weeks for results to be confirmed.

Certification

Successful candidates will be awarded an electronic certificate sent via email and a printed certificate sent by post. Successful candidates may add EBIR (European Board of Interventional Radiology) to their post-nominal qualifications.

Feedback on request

Unsuccessful candidates may request feedback within 2 weeks of being informed of their result. The request must be put forward in writing. Feedback will be offered in the form of a telephone conference. The maximum duration of this call is 30 minutes. Candidates will be required to pay a fee of 450€ to avail of this service.

A short-written summary of the conversation will be provided to the participants. A report of the review meeting and the feedback given will also be completed by the EBIR Council member present.

To maintain the confidentiality of examination questions, the candidate will not be able to view specific questions asked during the examination or the answers given. Instead, the feedback will focus on topics that require improvement and advice regarding examination techniques and study tools.

Please note that results are binding on all candidates and will not be changed. To appeal a result, candidates must follow the process outlined in the "Appeals" section of this document.

Repeat assessment

Candidates who do not pass the examination may repeat the assessment up to three times. To repeat the examination, candidates should contact the EBIR registration team at the following email address: ebir@cirse.org

Please note:

In order to sit the examination again, candidates must pay the examination registration fee. A transfer of the previous examination fee is not possible. The breakdown of marks for a

repeat assessment is identical to the first sitting of the assessment and there will not be separate sittings for candidates repeating the assessment. It is not possible to only repeat one section of the examination.

Appeals

Unsuccessful candidates may submit an appeal request within 2 weeks of being informed of their result. The request must be submitted in writing and be based on EITHER:

- 1) The candidate experiencing extenuating circumstances on the day of the assessment, and being able to provide evidence of same.

OR

- 2) The examination was not conducted according to appropriate policy and procedure, and being able to provide evidence of same.

Appeals will not be accepted on the basis of undertaking an examination at a time deemed by them to be anti-social hours.

An Appeal Board will receive the request and decide whether the evidence for the case is valid and will EITHER:

- 1) Provide a written answer declining the appeal on the basis of lacking, poor or insufficient evidence. This decision of the Appeal Board will be communicated to the candidate by notification via email.

OR

- 2) Provide a written answer informing the candidate that his or her appeal was successful. This decision of the Appeal Board will be communicated to the candidate by notification via email.

OR

- 3) Notify the candidate via email, that the basis of the candidate's appeal will be heard in a telephone conference. The resulting decision of the Appeal Board will be communicated to the candidate by written notification via email.

If the appeal is rejected, the candidate may re-apply to do the examination. Candidates are required to follow the procedure outlined in the section above entitled "Repeat Assessment".

If the appeal is successful, the candidate will be offered another opportunity to do the examination at the next available sitting which is convenient for him/her, free of charge.

The decision of the Appeal Board is final and binding upon the candidates.

Revocation of an EBIR certificate

CIRSE Society has the right to revoke the European Board of Interventional Radiology (EBIR) qualification and title at any time in case the EBIR Reviewing Board determines that an EBIR qualification holder was or is not properly qualified to receive and retain it or in case of discovery that an EBIR qualification holder had submitted falsified application documents.

The EBIR qualification holder will be given written notice of the reasons for revocation. Upon revocation of the EBIR, the EBIR qualification holder will be required to immediately return the certificate to the CIRSE Society office and will no longer be able to use the EBIR title. In case of revocation, CIRSE Society will not refund any examination fees.