

ORAL EBEORL-HNS EXAM

**What form should the oral exam
take?**

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AIM

- To ‘identify’ well trained **GENERAL** otolaryngologists using an exam that has validity & reliability, and which is reproducible and ‘standardised’

PROBLEM

- Agreeing standardised answers may prove 'difficult' as there is often lack of agreement across Europe regarding management of common conditions
- There is a lack of agreed European 'guidelines' (many would not necessarily welcome these!)
- May therefore require an approach of 'possible management options'

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- **Should there be clinical ‘cases’ i.e. practical examination?**
- **Discounted for the moment since practical problems of language, organisation, cost**

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Guided Questions

- Debate about nature of question/topic
- Clinically orientated case studies to assess 'higher order' thinking (factual knowledge assessed by written paper)
- Involve visual aids (clinical pictures, scans etc)
- Probably will require examiners to meet prior to exam to discuss (or e discussion?)
- Importance of 'recording' oral (written record of answers given by candidate – tick box ideal answer for examiners?)

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Guided Questions - topics

Those contained within UEMS logbook

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How many tables/examiners per table

- 4 tables (initially chosen since Maria's description of 'topic' areas. However, later decided each table should not be topic specific)
- 2 examiners/table (helps when 'recording' events)
- Examiners from different countries

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How many questions?

- Adopt ESA model of 12.5min per GQ, 2 GQ per table = 25 min per table (if 2 examiners per table)
- If 4 tables require 8 GQ per session (will need to change questions each session)
- Debate – is this enough questions/topics

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How long should it be?

- Adopt ESA model of 12.5min per GQ, 2 GQ per table = 25 min per table (if 2 examiners per table)
- 4 tables
- 6 minute rest period
- Each candidate takes 4 x 25 exam time, 3 x 6 rest periods = 118 mins = **approx. 2 hours**

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Capacity of exam

- Each candidate takes 2 hours
- 1 team (8 examiners) can assess 4 candidates in 2 hours
- 4 examining sessions per day, 1 team can assess 16 candidates
- 2 teams (16 examiners) can assess 32 candidates in 1 day