

COVID-19 crisis and the Federal Examination in Human Medicine 2020

As a result of the COVID-19 crisis, on 27 May 2020 the Federal Council decided the following regarding implementation of the Federal Examination in Human Medicine (for the Federal Council Ordinance, see LAWS):

Federal Examination in Human Medicine 2020

The federal examination 2020 consists of:

- a. the usual written examination in multiple choice format (MC examination); and
- b. an assessment of skills, competencies, behaviours and social skills (practical assessment).

Provisional entry in the Register of Medical Professions (MedReg)

The Federal Council regulation will impact entry in the MedReg as follows:

- Doctors who passed the MC examination, but not the CS (clinical skills) examination in 2019 will be provisionally entered in the Register of Medical Professions until the end of October 2021 in accordance with the COVID-19 Ordinance of 27 May 2020 on Measures regarding the 2020 Federal Examination in Human Medicine. This entry is dated 28 May 2020 (the date the aforementioned Ordinance entered into force), and allows individuals to practise under supervision during this period. They will thus have the same rights and obligations as previous cohorts of junior doctors and can take up their planned positions and embark on their postgraduate training in full. As soon as they pass the practical assessment as set out in the aforementioned Ordinance, they will receive the Federal Diploma in Medicine and will therefore be definitively entered in the Register of Medical Professions.
- Candidates who take and pass the MC examination in 2020 will be provisionally entered in the MedReg with a subsequent authorisation to practise their profession from the date of notification that they have passed the MC examination (end of October 2020).

Practical assessment:

- The University Section of the Medical Professions Commission (MEBEKO) issued the process description and evaluation sheet following a suggestion from the Examination Board for Human Medicine. Both documents are now available in English, German, French and Italian.
- The process description includes details on the evaluation (assessment instruments, overall evaluation, responsibilities), on submission of the evaluation to the FOPH, and on completion of the practical assessment in special circumstances (military medical practice, activities with no direct patient contact, research, activities outside Switzerland).
- The evaluation sheet constitutes the overall evaluation by the head of the training facility, which he or she conducts on the basis of the assessment instruments. Negative evaluations should include a brief justification. It is up to candidates to decide whether a negative evaluation should be submitted to the FOPH.

Definitive entry in the MedReg

The list of doctors who have passed the practical assessment to acquire the Federal Diploma in Medicine and are thus definitively entered in the MedReg, can be found below.