

General Certificate of Education

Applied Science 8771/8773/8776/8779

SC08 Medical Physics

Mark Scheme

2007 examination – June series

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of candidates' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

Further copies of this Mark Scheme are available to download from the AQA Website: www.aqa.org.uk

Copyright © 2007 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

COPYRIGHT

AQA retains the copyright on all its publications. However, registered centres for AQA are permitted to copy material from this booklet for their own internal use, with the following important exception: AQA cannot give permission to centres to photocopy any material that is acknowledged to a third party even for internal use within the centre.

Set and published by the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance.

CAT scanner-cancerous tumour	(1) (AO1)
EEG – brain	(1) (AO1)
ECG – heart	(1) (AO1) 5
X-ray- skeletal structure	(1) (AO1)
Ultrasound – foetal development	(1) (AO1)

Total Mark: 5

Question 2

	Any three points for one mark each:	(3) (AO1)	
(a)	Use of strong magnetic field Views body from different angles Different effects on different organs Effects depend on chemical composition Computer generates image		3
(b)	Any two points for one mark each: Do not use such high energy radiation/ X-rays No evidence that strong magnetic fields have such damaging effects on cells X-rays are known to damage cells CAT scans use very high doses of X-rays.	(2) (AO2)	2

Total Mark: 5

Question 3

	Liquid expands when heated.	(1) (AO1)	
	Rises up (inner) tube	(1) (AO1)	
(a)	The greater the temperature, the further it rises.	(1) (AO2)	3
	Other relevant points, such as expansivity of liquid and		
	glass, adhesion of liquid etc will be credited		
	Suitable advantage e.g. more accurate	(1) (AO1)	
	Explained e.g. closer to measuring core temperature	(1) (AO2)	
(b)			4
	Suitable disadvantage e.g. hard to read accurately	(1) (AO1)	
	Explained e.g. because liquid thread is very thin	(1) (AO2)	
(c)	This patient is suffering from hypothermia	(1) (AO2)	1

(a)(i)	Sound/longitudinal/compression wave	(1) (AO1)	2
	Above 20Khz/above human hearing range	(1) (AO1)	2
(ii)	Electromagnetic wave	(1) (AO1)	2
	High frequency/high energy	(1) (AO1)	2
	Better contrast	(1) (AO1)	
	Explained	(1) (AO2)	
(b)			4
	Less dangerous	(1) (AO1)	
	Explained	(1) (AO2)	
(c)	Any suitable condition	(1) (AO1)	1
	0.02	(2) (AO2)	
(4)(i)	(allow compensation mark for correct		3
(d)(i)	equation/substitution/rearrangement)		3
	m	(1) (AO1)	
/ii\	Velocity does not change	(1) (AO2)	2
(ii)	Determined by medium/wavelength halves	(1) (AO2)	2
	Evacuated tube-allows electrons to travel across tube freely	(1) (AO1)	
(e)(i)	Cathode – produces electrons	(1) (AO1)	4
(0)(1)	Lead housing – stop X-rays escaping from the machine.	(1) (AO1)	-
	Anode produces X-rays/attracts electrons	(1) (AO1)	
(ii)	To prevent overheating	(1) (AO1)	2
(")	As electrons will not be hitting the same part all the time.	(1) (AO1)	-
(f)	X-rays use (differential) absorption	(1) (AO2)	2
	Ultrasound uses (differential) reflection	(1) (AO2)	~

Total Mark: 22

Question 5

(a)	Total internal Reflection	(1) (AO1)	1
	High refractive index means low critical angle	(1) (AO2)	
(L.)	Any two of the following points for 1 mark each:	(2) (AO2)	
(b)	Light reflects if angle is greater than critical angle The smaller the critical angle, the more rays will hit at an		3
	angle greater than the critical angle		
	More light will reflect (if the critical angle is small)		
	Clear indication that candidate knows what the critical angle		
	is	(1) (AO3)	
	Indication that the angle measured is the angle between the		
(c)	ray and the normal	(1) (AO3)	4
	Description of equipment used (must include a way of		
	measuring angles)	(1) (AO3)	
	Description of how equipment is used	(1) (AO3)	
	1.589 (1.5)(1.58) (1.6)	(3) (AO2)	
(d)	One compensation mark for each of the following (max 2)		
	Correct equation n= 1/sinc		3
	Correct substitution n = 1/sin 39° or 1/0.629		
	Correct use of sines		

(a)	Tracer – something put into the body which then has its path traced	(1) (AO1)	2
	Diagnosis – finding out what is wrong	(1) (AO1)	
	Gamma	(1) (AO1)	
(b)(i)	Any two of: Least ionising Will do least damage Most penetrating Can be detected outside the body.	(2) (AO2)	3
(ii)	Between 1 hour and 2 weeks accepted. Long enough for trace to take place Patient does not remain radioactive for too long	(1) (AO1) (1) (AO2) (1) (AO2)	3
(iii)	Any two suitable properties – one mark each Explained – one mark each. e.g. toxicity because you don't want to poison the patient; organ affinity because you may want to target a specific organ	(2) (AO1) (2) (AO2)	4

Total Mark: 12

Question 7

(a)(i)	Any two of: Acts at site/less penetrating Will do little harm to surrounding tissue Very ionising Does most damage to cancer cells	(2) (AO2)	2
(ii)	At least one month Will remain active for long enough to do its job Will not have to be replaced too often	(1) (AO1) (1) (AO2) (1) (AO2)	3
(b)	To ensure tumour can be attacked from all angles To minimise damage to surrounding cells.	(1) (AO2) (1) (AO2)	2

		1	
(a)(i)	50 days	(1) (AO2)	2
	Evidence of taking more than one reading (and averaging)	(1) (AO3)	2
	Comment on suitability	(1) (AO3)	
(ii)	Effect of using larger time intervals	(1) (AO3)	3
	Effect of using shorter time intervals	(1) (AO3)	
	4 days	(3) (AO2)	
(b)	1 compensation for: 4, correct equation, correct substitution, correct re-arrangement Max 2		5
	Excreted	(1) (AO2)	
	Further detail / absorbed	(1) (AO2)	