



**General Certificate of Education (A-level) Applied
June 2011**

Health and Social Care

HC14

**(Specification
8621/8623/8626/8627/8629)**

Unit 14: Diagnosis and Treatment

Report on the Examination

Further copies of this Report on **the Examination** are available from: aqa.org.uk

Copyright © 2011 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.

The Assessment and Qualifications Alliance (AQA) is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (company number 3644723) and a registered charity (registered charity number 1073334).
Registered address: AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Unit 14 - Diagnosis and Treatment
June 2011
Principal Examiner's Report

It is pleasing to report a good range of candidate performance on this paper with a significant number of candidates with high marks. The pattern of candidate performance on this paper was generally similar to that of previous series. Candidates who were able to apply technical terminology accurately and produce coherent, well-reasoned responses did well. Less-able candidates tended to produce answers which were lacking in relevant detail, often being vague, repetitive or confused. These candidates were also much less secure in their use of technical terminology.

Question 1

01 The majority of candidates gained at least two of the three marks by describing how temperature would be measured.

02, 03 Candidates were also sound in their understanding of blood pressure measurement and how a GP would find out a patient's medical history.

04 Explanations of why medical history is important proved a little more challenging with just over half the candidates gaining two or three marks.

05 In part 05 there were some very detailed responses demonstrating a sound understanding of the principles and use of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). Less-able candidates often confused this technique with those employing radioactivity.

06 Part 06 was answered well, but many candidates gained both marks for an advantage and a disadvantage of MRI compared with ultrasound scanning.

Question 2

07 Many candidates scored three or more marks in part 07 by drawing appropriate conclusions from the data relating to infectious diseases. More able candidates generally produced more detailed responses which included greater manipulation of the data rather than the vaguer and often repetitive responses of less-able candidates.

08 Most candidates were able to score one mark in part 08 for either population change or uptake of immunisation responses.

09, 10 While the majority of candidates scored well on both 09 and 10, the reasons why unstructured interviews may be better than structured interviews produced more successful answers in part 10 compared to the vice versa question in 09.

11, 12 As on previous papers candidates were generally secure in their knowledge of the three types of drug name and reasons for administering a drug by injection.

Question 3

13 The vast majority of candidates were able to gain at least half the marks by demonstrating understanding of general anaesthetics.

14 Candidates were generally less secure in their understanding of microsurgery, but a significant number did gain full marks.

15 There were some very good responses describing the principles of transplant surgery with very few candidates gaining less than half marks.

16 Just under half the candidates gained half marks or more for their explanations of the principles of home nursing and how they differ from the principles of hospital nursing. Most candidates were able to balance their responses with consideration of both aspects of this question, but less-able candidates tended to be less secure on the principles of home nursing and a little stronger on the principles of hospital nursing.

Question 4

17 There was a good range of responses 17 with less-able candidates gaining marks for the destruction of cancer cells by the use of ionising radiation. More-able candidates generally provided additional details on how the treatment is given both internally and externally .

18 The side effects of radiotherapy were known well.

19 Less-able candidates tended to produce rather one-sided considerations, usually discussing why smokers should not be treated at the expense of non- smokers. More-able candidates produced more balanced answers covering the availability of NHS resources, types of smoking diseases and dysfunctions and the nature of addiction.

Grade boundaries

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the AQA website at www.aqa.org.uk/over/stat.html