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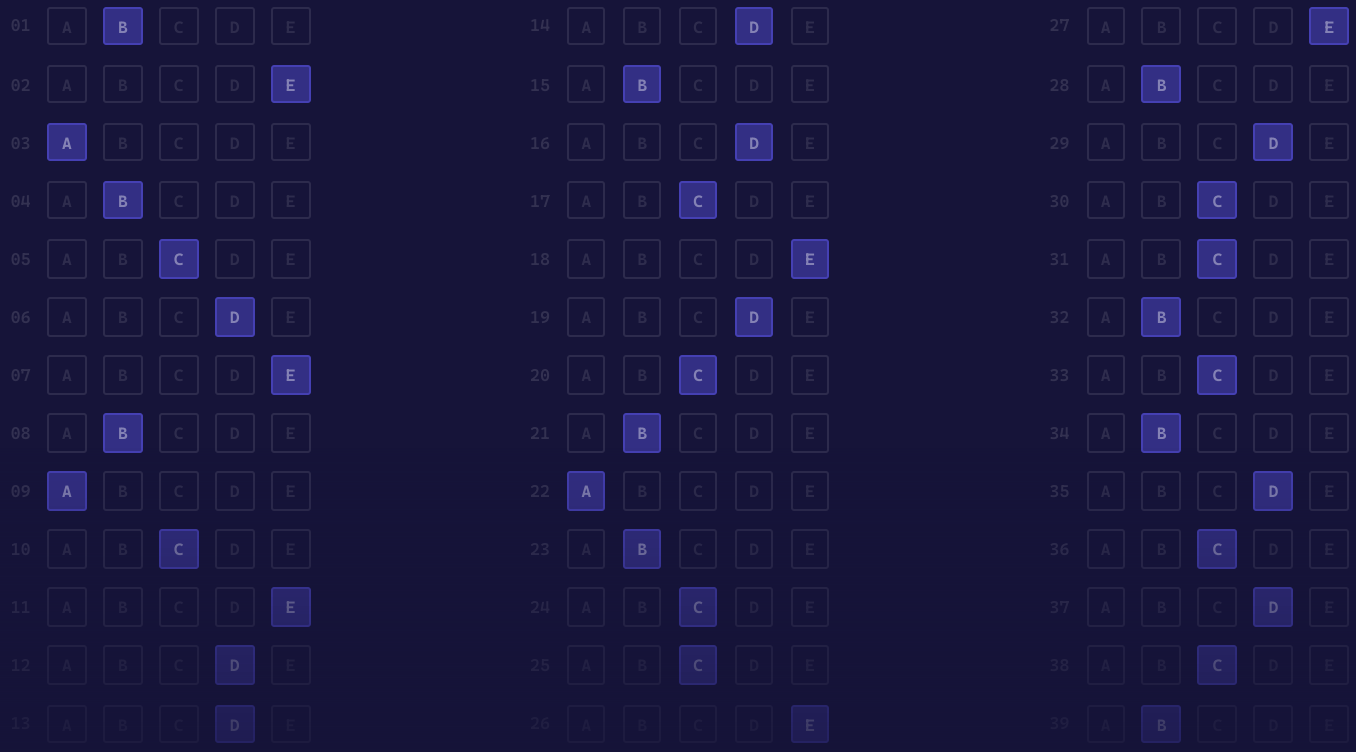

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Saudi Commission For Health Specialties (SCFHS)

FRMED

Forensic Medicine

EDITION	QUESTIONS	FORMAT
Demo	9	Limited Edition PDF

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Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for Saudi Commission For Health Specialties (SCFHS) `FRMED`, each with its answer key and an explanation. Answer a question before you read its key — the explanation is worth more once you have committed.

If something looks wrong

Send us three things and we will check it:

- the exam code, `FRMED`
- the question number
- the email address on your order

Write to **support@mometrix.net**. We reply within one business day.

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QUESTION 1 SINGLE CHOICE

A 35-year-old man is found dead at the base of a multi-story building. External examination shows multiple fractures of long bones and skull with patterned lacerations inconsistent with a simple fall. The scene reveals a broken window on the 5th floor and absence of clothing on the upper half of the body. Which manner of death is most likely?

A Accidental fall

B Suicide

C Homicide

D Natural death

ANSWER C

WHY Patterned lacerations inconsistent with a simple fall and the suspicious scene findings (broken window, partial absence of clothing) raise strong suspicion of foul play. The patterned injuries suggest assault prior to the fall, making homicide the most likely manner of death, which must be confirmed through full autopsy and further investigation.

QUESTION 2 SINGLE CHOICE

At autopsy, a contusion on the forearm shows vital reaction with hemorrhage into the surrounding tissues and infiltration of inflammatory cells. Which feature most reliably indicates that the injury occurred before death?

A Reddish discoloration of the contused area

B Infiltration of inflammatory cells and tissue reaction

C Absence of clotting in the underlying vessels

D Presence of cadaveric lividity over the area

ANSWER B

WHY Vital reaction (inflammatory cell infiltration and tissue response) is a hallmark of ante-mortem injury because it requires an active blood circulation and living tissue response. The other findings can occur after death (post-mortem hypostasis can mimic bruising, and clots may be absent in either case).

QUESTION 3 SINGLE CHOICE

A body is discovered in a closed room with an ambient temperature of 22°C. Rectal temperature measured at the scene is 30°C. Assuming body temperature was normal (37°C) at the time of death, using the standard rule of 1–1.5°C drop per hour in the first hours, the estimated time since death is approximately:

A 2–4 hours

B 5–7 hours

C 10–15 hours

D More than 24 hours

ANSWER B

WHY The body has cooled by 7°C (37 − 30 = 7). Using the standard cooling rate of about 1–1.5°C per hour during the early post-mortem period, the estimated time since death is approximately 5–7 hours. Cooling rate is influenced by body mass, clothing, and ambient conditions.

QUESTION 4 SINGLE CHOICE

During autopsy of a victim recovered from a river, frothy fluid is noted at the mouth and nostrils, the lungs are over-distended and edematous, and Paltauf spots are present on the lung surfaces. The most likely cause of death is:

A Smoke inhalation

B Drowning

C Cardiac arrest

D Cerebral hemorrhage

ANSWER B

WHY Frothy fluid at the airways, over-distended edematous lungs, and Paltauf spots (subpleural hemorrhages from violent respiratory efforts against a closed glottis and aspiration) are classic autopsy findings of drowning. Diatoms testing in bone marrow may further support the diagnosis.

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QUESTION 5 SINGLE CHOICE

Which of the following samples is the most appropriate specimen for forensic toxicological analysis to detect recent drug or alcohol intake in a deceased person?

A Vitreous humor

B Peripheral blood from a clean site, collected with sodium fluoride preservative

C Gastric contents only

D Formalin-fixed tissue

ANSWER B

WHY Peripheral (femoral) blood collected into tubes containing sodium fluoride (to inhibit glycolysis and bacterial action) and an anticoagulant is the gold standard for toxicological quantification. Vitreous humor is useful for alcohol and certain drugs but is a complementary specimen. Formalin-fixed tissue is generally unsuitable for quantitative toxicology.

QUESTION 6 SINGLE CHOICE

A victim presents with a wound that has clean-cut, well-defined edges, is longer on the surface than it is deep, and shows no bridging of tissues. These features are most characteristic of:

A Stab wound

B Incised (sharp cut) wound

C Lacerated wound

D Patterned contusion

ANSWER B

WHY An incised wound is produced by a sharp-edged weapon drawn across the skin, producing clean, well-defined edges that are typically longer on the surface than deep, with no tissue bridging. A stab wound is deeper than it is wide; a laceration has irregular edges with tissue bridging.

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QUESTION 7 SINGLE CHOICE

A gunshot entrance wound on the chest shows a circular defect with an abrasion collar and a zone of soot deposition (powder tattooing) in the surrounding skin. This pattern indicates that the range of fire was:

A Distant

B Intermediate (close) range

C Contact range

D Indeterminate

ANSWER B

WHY Powder tattooing (stippling) results from unburned powder grains striking the skin and indicates an intermediate or close-range shot where the muzzle is close enough for powder to reach but not in contact. Contact range typically produces searing, soot within the wound, and a muzzle imprint, while distant shots show only the abrasion collar without soot or stippling.

QUESTION 8 SINGLE CHOICE

Forensic examination of unknown skeletal remains shows obliteration of the sutures of the skull vault, marked lipping of vertebral bodies, and complete fusion of the medial end of the clavicle. These findings are most consistent with an age of:

A Less than 20 years

B 20–30 years

C 30–45 years

D More than 50 years

ANSWER D

WHY Complete fusion of the medial clavicular epiphysis occurs in the mid-40s and is the last epiphysis to fuse. Combined with obliterated cranial sutures and degenerative changes (lipping) of vertebrae, these findings are consistent with an age above 50 years.

QUESTION 9 MULTIPLE CHOICE

Which of the following are essential components of maintaining the chain of custody for forensic evidence? (Choose two.)

A **Continuous documentation of each transfer of evidence with date, time, and signatures**

B **Sealing and labeling evidence containers with unique identifiers**

C Storing evidence at room temperature regardless of type

D Allowing multiple unrecorded handlers to access evidence to expedite processing

ANSWER **A** · **B**

WHY Continuous documentation of every transfer with identifying details and proper sealing/labeling of evidence containers are fundamental to chain of custody. Storage conditions must be appropriate for the type of evidence, and access must be controlled and recorded, not unrestricted.

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