

## SCE in Infectious Diseases Blueprint

Candidates are tested on a wide range of common and important disorders as set out in the syllabus of the curriculum.

The composition of the papers is as follows:

Topic	Number of questions*
Antimicrobial prescribing policies and control, clinical laboratory methodology	20
Community-acquired infection	50
GUM infections	10
Hepatitis	20
HIV infection	20
Healthcare-acquired infection (HAI)	20
Imported infection	20
Infections in the immunocompromised host	10
Public health and infection control, Scientific methods and clinical trials	10
Tuberculosis	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>

\* This should be taken as an indication of the likely number of questions – the actual number may vary slightly.

The questions in each category are distributed across both papers.

### ^ Description of topic groups

- **Community-acquired infection:**

investigation, differential diagnosis and management of community-acquired infections in adults in the UK

- **Antimicrobial prescribing policies and control, clinical laboratory methodology:**

questions specific to antimicrobial therapy of infections, eg drug interactions, side effects, interpretation of laboratory minimum inhibitory concentration data, etc

- **Imported infection:**

investigation, differential diagnosis and management of infection in the returned traveler; also prevention of infection by vaccination or prophylaxis

- **Healthcare-acquired infection:**

healthcare-acquired infections including *Clostridium difficile*, antibiotic-resistant organisms, nosocomial pneumonia, device-related infections, etc

- **HIV infection:**

questions relating to management of HIV, including drug therapy, complications and side-effects; management of co-morbidities; investigation, differential diagnosis and management of opportunistic infections and malignancies

- **Tuberculosis:**

questions relating to management of tuberculosis and other mycobacterial diseases, including drug therapy, drug resistance, diagnostic tests, etc

- **Hepatitis:**

investigation, differential diagnosis and management of acute and chronic infective hepatitis

- **Infections in the immunocompromised host:**

primary and acquired immunodeficiency (excluding HIV) and associated infections

- **Public health and infection control:**

public health aspects of infection, including prevention of transmission (isolation, vaccination, prophylaxis); recognition and management of scenarios where there is an infection control issue; understanding of principles and basic structure of clinical trials, and knowledge of statistics in a trial setting

- **GUM infections:**

investigation, differential diagnosis and management of genitourinary infection, particularly relating to systemic diseases.