

## **NEW PAPER IIB**

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

#### **Why has Paper IIB been changed?**

The objective is to assess manipulation and interpretation of data in a more structured and standardised form, which will facilitate comparison of average performance across sittings of the Part A MFPH examination. The change has been introduced in response to recommendations from the recent Southgate Review and was approved by PMETB in February 2009.

#### **When does the new Paper IIB come into effect?**

From the January 2010 sitting of the Part A MFPH Examination.

#### **How will the new paper be structured?**

Paper IIB will continue to be a 90-minute paper contributing 50 marks to the overall Part A total of 200. However, it will be structured as five "sections" which will cover different parts of the Part A syllabus, each section contributing 10 marks to the overall 50.

#### **Will candidates be able to choose which section/s to answer?**

No. Candidates will be expected to answer all sections.

#### **What type of answers will candidates be expected to give?**

Answers may be numerical, graphical, short phrases, sentences or a short paragraph (where indicated in the question).

#### **Will there be multiple-choice questions?**

Multiple-choice questions may form part of a section in the new Paper IIB.

#### **Is it necessary to pass a certain number of sections to pass the paper?**

No. There will be no requirement to "pass" a specified number of sections (in contrast to the Paper I marking scheme). The total mark for Paper IIB will be the sum of marks obtained on each of the five sections.

#### **Does the new paper affect the rules governing pass/fails, or the rules permitting banking?**

No. Paper IIB will continue to contribute 50 marks to the overall Part A total of 200. There will be no change to banking rules and results will continue to be determined according to the Part A marking algorithm - [http://www.fph.org.uk/exams/downloads/PartA/PartA\\_marking\\_algorithm.pdf](http://www.fph.org.uk/exams/downloads/PartA/PartA_marking_algorithm.pdf).

#### **How will feedback be provided on the paper?**

Candidates will receive the total mark (out of 50) for the paper. This is in line with the current feedback policy for Paper II.

#### **Are there specimen questions for the new paper?**

Yes. Specimen sections can be found here - [http://www.fph.org.uk/exams/part\\_a/specimens.asp](http://www.fph.org.uk/exams/part_a/specimens.asp). More sections will be developed over time and posted on the FPH website.

#### **Will questions be published after the examination?**

No. Questions in the new format paper will not be published, but will be retained in a reusable question bank.

#### **Are there any changes to the other Part A papers?**

No. Papers IA, IB and IIA will continue in their current format and timing.

#### **Is the Part A Syllabus or standard of the Part A MFPH examination changing?**

No. The syllabus has been reviewed in the context of the 2007 curriculum review and no changes have been proposed.

The standard of the examination will continue to be maintained and linked to the Part A Syllabus, by the Part A Examiners Group and principally by the Chair and Deputy Chair of Examiners, the FPH Academic Registrar and FPH Education and Training staff. The Part A MFPH examination continues to be underpinned by the Public Health Curriculum and by our regulators' standards and principles.