**Conducting Final MBBS clinical examination during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

1. The Department of Surgery, University of Ruhuna is grateful and wishes to thank you for accepting to be examiners for the Final MBBS Examination during this unprecedented covid 19 period.

2. To ensure the safety of students, examiners, and the patients, certain recommendations have been implemented in conducting this examination.

 3. Due to limitations of distancing between patients, the number of short cases have been reduced but no change has been done to the conduct of long cases.

4. The number of students per pair of examiners are limited to 5 for short cases and long cases respectively.

5. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation to conduct the examination with these limitations but utilise the normal standards of questioning and marking that is appropriate for final MBBS.

6. Wherever possible during short cases, the emphasis should be placed mainly on making the candidate to elicit physical signs.

7. We request you to use the full range of marks from 0-100 according to the instructions given in the marking sheet.

8. Recommendations and special information for the examiners

Special precautions taken

* a)  All patients that take part in the exam will be tested for COVID by Rapid
Antigen test (RAT)/ PCR
* b)  Temperature of patients and students are checked prior to the
examination
* c)  The patients are given masks and for conditions that require examination
in head, neck and anterior chest, are given face shields along with the
masks
* d)  If the patients request to wear gloves during the examination process it
is been provided.
* e)  All students will be attired in protective clothing, medical grade masks, face shields and gloves throughout the clinical cases

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9. In short cases, recommended distancing and ventilation are maintained.

10. 70% Alcohol hand sanitizers are made freely available which the students
are expected to use between each case on their gloves and the examiners should use if they come into physical contact with a patient or student.

11. Unless clinically indicated the students are NOT subjected to COVID testing.

 a) Therefore steps are taken to avoid or minimize physical contact between examiners and the students

 b) The students’ admission sheets will NOT be handed over to the examiners at the clinicals but will be signed separately by a senior lecturer of the department.

12. The examiners are provided with the marking sheets, a separate pen and a folder which should only be handled by the relevant examiner.

13. At the end of the examination, the 2 examiners are expected to fold the marking sheets, put them in the envelope provided, and write their names on the front of the envelope and handover to the department staff who will ensure proper sealing of the envelope.

14. Medical grade masks and face shields are available for any examiner who requests them.

15. Wearing the mask is expected at all times during the exam. ( face shield is optional for the examiners)

Thanking you

Yours sincerely