



British Thoracic Society

Specialty Certificate Examination in Respiratory Medicine

**Dr Maria Wilczynska
SpR Wales Deanery**



British Thoracic Society

Entry requirements

There is no entry requirement for the SCE in Respiratory Medicine, however, candidates in UK training posts would normally take the SCE in Respiratory Medicine in their penultimate year of higher specialty training.



British Thoracic Society

Exam format

- computer-based two-paper test
- each paper contains 100 questions and lasts 3 hours
- ‘best of five’ multiple choice questions format
- pass mark 60-65%

Asthma **5**

COPD **20**

Cystic fibrosis **5**

Diffuse parenchymal lung disease (DPLD) **25**

Disorders of the pleura and mediastinum, pneumothorax **15**

Imaging **20**

Occupational and environmental disease **10**

Physiology **20**

Pulmonary infections **20**

Pulmonary vascular disease **15**

Sleep-related breathing disorders and hypoventilation **5**

Thoracic oncology **20**

Tuberculosis and opportunistic mycobacterial disease **10**

Other (Ethics/Pharmacology/Statistics) **10**



British Thoracic Society

Exam dates

Exam date: 18 April 2012

Registration period: 20 January - 13 March 2012

**From 2013 the examination will take place in
October/November**



British Thoracic Society

Tips

1. Work hard
2. Read the curriculum
3. Attend MDT meeting in the various specialty blocks
4. Interpret lung function tests including spirometry, flow volume loops, full PFT's, exercise physiology and arterial blood gases
5. Interpret chest radiology including chest radiography, CT scanning and PET scanning



British Thoracic Society

Available resources

1. BTS/ATS/ERS/NICE guidelines
2. Summer BTS meeting with mini SC's ,
5-6 July 2012, York
3. E-learning
4. BTS Short courses
5. Respiratory journals: AJRCCM, ERS, CHEST, Thorax etc.