

TAQEEM™
Healthcare Licensing Examination Center
in Dubai Healthcare City (DHCC)



MEDICAL LICENSING EXAMINATION – GENERAL (MLE-G)

CANDIDATE INFORMATION BOOKLET (CIB)

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INTRODUCTION

Dubai Healthcare City (DHCC), with its long-term vision of establishing a regional center of excellence providing high-quality healthcare, medical education and research, has established TAQEEM™, the region's first healthcare licensing examination center. The Center for Healthcare Planning and Quality (CPQ), the regulatory body of DHCC established as a joint venture between DHCC and its strategic partner, Partners Harvard Medical International, is collaborating with the United States National Board of Medical Examiners® (NBME®) in the development and administration of TAQEEM™'s Medical Licensing Examination Program. A core component of that Program is the Medical Licensure Examination – General (MLE-G). The MLE-G will be used to evaluate the competency of physicians seeking licensure in DHCC and through affiliated licensing authorities in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) for the general practice of medicine.

This Candidate Information Booklet (CIB) contains policy and procedural information for the MLE-G. You should become familiar with the information in this booklet if you are an applicant for the MLE-G. **Please note** that while every attempt has been made to provide accurate and definitive information in this booklet, TAQEEM™ may need to change or revise policies and procedures that affect the MLE-G program. If changes occur, information will be posted at TAQEEM's website (<http://www.taqeem.ae>). You must obtain the most recent information to ensure an accurate understanding of current rules. If you are unable to access updated information via the Internet, you may contact the TAQEEM™ (see page 21).

By applying to take the MLE-G, you acknowledge that you have read, understood and agreed to be bound by the statements and test administration policies and procedures described in this booklet, which are enforceable by TAQEEM™ in DHCC, the NBME, and/or the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB).

PURPOSE OF THE MLE-G

TAQEEM™ is offering the MLE-G in order to provide licensing entities in DHCC and/or other affiliated licensing authorities in the GCC with a common evaluation system and a final assessment of physician's competency to assume independent responsibility for delivering general medical care. The MLE-G assesses a physician's ability to apply knowledge, concepts, and principles that are important in addressing health and disease and that constitute the basis of safe and effective patient care. This examination also assesses the application of medical knowledge and understanding of biomedical and clinical science essential for the unsupervised practice of medicine, with emphasis on patient management in ambulatory settings. Results on the MLE-G will be reported to TAQEEM™ through DHCC, which may, upon the request by an examinee, forward the results to other affiliated licensing organizations in the GCC for their use as one of the criteria for meeting licensure requirements in their jurisdictions.

INQUIRIES ABOUT RECOGNITION OF MLE-G FOR US LICENSURE PURPOSES

While the MLE-G is comparable in content and format to Step 3 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination® (USMLE®), the MLE-G is separate and distinct from the USMLE. TAQEEM-sponsorship to sit for the MLE-G does not entitle you to sit for Step 3 of the USMLE.

Candidates must agree as a condition to sitting for the MLE-G that the results of that examination will be used to obtain a license to practice medicine in the DHCC or another applicable jurisdiction.

A candidate who has successfully completed the MLE-G may seek recognition from the USMLE program for potential licensure in the United States. Upon satisfaction of all other USMLE Step 3 requirements (i.e., passing USMLE Step 2 CS and/or achievement of ECFMG certification), a candidate may request that the USMLE Composite Committee authorize the release of the results of the MLE-G to any entity other than TAQEEM™ - Healthcare Licensing Examination Center in DHCC and/or that the Composite Committee recognize a passing result earned on the MLE-G as a passing result on Step 3 for USMLE purposes. Inquiries should be directed to the Office of the USMLE Secretariat, whose mailing address is available at www.usmle.org.

The USMLE Composite Committee, in its sole discretion, has the authority to decide whether to authorize the release of the results and to recognize the MLE-G as a passing result on Step 3 for USMLE purposes. No representation is made that USMLE governance will recognize a passing result of MLE-G for USMLE purposes or that state licensing authorities will recognize it for purposes of licensure in the United States of America (USA) or its territories.

If a candidate later pursues licensure in the US, US licensing authorities will be notified of all prior MLE-G test activity, including the number of attempts and scores. NBME also reserves the right to report the results of the MLE-G to FSMB and USMLE.

Any instance of suspected irregular behavior on MLE-G will be referred to USMLE program, which may impose consequences, up to and including a ban from participating in any USMLE examinations.

OWNERSHIP AND COPYRIGHT OF EXAMINATION MATERIALS

The MLE-G contains test materials that are owned and copyrighted by the FSMB and the NBME. Any reproduction of these materials or any part of them, through any means, including but not limited to, copying or printing of electronic files, reconstruction through memorization and/or dictation, and/or dissemination of these materials or any part of them, is strictly prohibited. In addition to actions described on pages 19-20, every legal means available to protect MLE-G copyrighted materials and secure redress against those who violate copyright law may be pursued.

COMPUTER-BASED TESTING (CBT)

The MLE-G is administered by computer at select Prometric Test Centers (PTCs). You can obtain a listing of the current PTCs where the MLE-G is available at the TAQEEM™ website, (<http://www.taqeem.ae>). Examinees are responsible for scheduling their testing appointment with Prometric via the online scheduling system or by telephone at the number provided on the Scheduling Permit (explained on page 10).

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to take the MLE-G, you must satisfy all the following criteria at the time of application:

1. Completion of six (6) years of education in a college or university, of which at least four (4) years are devoted to formal medical education, including having met all formal requirements for the degree corresponding to Doctor of Medicine or its equivalent (e.g., MBBS, DO), as follows:
 - a graduate of a medical school program with a graduation year listed in the *International Medical Education Directory* (IMED) of the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research® (FAIMER®); Or
 - a graduate of a United States or Canadian medical school program accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME); Or
 - a graduate of a United States medical school accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA); AND
2. Completion of at least one (1) year of supervised clinical training sponsored by an IMED listed medical school; AND
3. Pass Step 1 and Step 2 Clinical Knowledge (CK) of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE). Graduates of US and Canadian medical schools must also pass USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills (CS). You will be required to submit an official USMLE transcript to TAQEEM™ through DHCC to verify your completion of this requirement. In addition, you will not be eligible to sit for the MLE-G if you are barred or restricted from participating in the USMLE or any NBME examinations. For information on taking USMLE Steps 1 and 2, see the USMLE website at www.USMLE.org; AND
4. Agree that the results of the MLE-G will be used to obtain a license to practice medicine in the DHCC or another applicable jurisdiction; AND
5. Read and agree to be bound by the statements and policies in this *Candidate Information Booklet*.

As a part of the application process, you will be asked to provide documentation that verifies satisfaction of the above criteria, including, but not limited to, USMLE ID, photo identification of candidate identity and an official transcript of prerequisite USMLE Step Exams.

TIME LIMIT AND NUMBER OF ATTEMPTS ALLOWED TO COMPLETE MLE-G

The dates of passing the USMLE Step 1, Step 2, and MLE-G examinations must occur within a seven-year period. The “clock” starts running on the date the first USMLE Step or Step Component is passed.

You are allowed no more than six attempts to pass MLE-G without demonstration of additional educational experience acceptable to TAQEEM™ and/or CPQ and other affiliated licensing organizations in the GCC.

RETAKES

If you pass the MLE-G, you are not allowed to retake it.

If you fail or do not complete MLE-G and want to retake it, you must reapply by submitting a new application and fee. You may not attempt the MLE-G more than four times within a 12-month period. Any non-successful attempts at Step 3 of USMLE will count toward this limit.

OFFICIAL PERFORMANCE OF RECORD FOR EXAMINEES RETAKING A PREVIOUSLY PASSED USMLE STEP

In order to meet the examination requirements for MLE-G eligibility, you must achieve a passing performance on the most recent administration of the examinations intended to meet those requirements.

If you have not yet passed MLE-G and wish to retake a previously passed USMLE Step 1 or Step 2 examination in order to meet the time limit imposed by TAQEEM™, you should understand the implications for MLE-G eligibility of a failing performance on a retake. Specifically, if a failing performance on a retake of USMLE Step 1 or Step 2 examination is the most recent administration of that examination, that failing score will preclude MLE-G eligibility.

EXAMINATION CONTENT

The MLE-G is organized along two principal dimensions: clinical encounter frame and physician task. (See MLE-G Specifications Table).

Encounter frames capture the essential features of circumstances surrounding physicians' clinical activity with patients. They range from encounters with patients seen for the first time for nonemergency problems, to encounters with regular patients seen in the context of continued care, to patient encounters in (life-threatening) emergency situations. Encounters occur in clinics, offices, skilled nursing care facilities, hospitals, emergency departments, and on the telephone. Each test item in an encounter frame also represents one of the six physician tasks. For example, initial care encounters emphasize taking a history and performing a physical examination. In contrast, continued care encounters emphasize decisions regarding prognosis and management.

MLE-G Specifications*

Clinical Encounter Frame

20%–30%	Initial care
50%–60%	Continued care
15%–25%	Emergency care

Physician Task

8%–12%	Obtaining history and performing physical examination
8%–12%	Using laboratory and diagnostic studies
8%–12%	Formulating most likely diagnosis
8%–12%	Evaluating severity of patient's problems
8%–12%	Applying scientific concepts and mechanisms of disease
45%–55%	Managing the patient <ul style="list-style-type: none">• health maintenance• clinical intervention• clinical therapeutics• legal and ethical issues

* Percentages are subject to change at any time. See TAQEEM's website for the most up-to-date information (<http://www.taqem.ae>).

High-frequency, high-impact diseases also organize the content. Clinician experts assign clinical problems related to these diseases to individual clinical encounter frames to represent their occurrence in generalist practice.

Primum[®] Computer-Based Case Simulations (CCS)

Examinees test using two formats: (1) multiple-choice questions; and (2) Primum computer-based case simulations (CCS), a testing format that allows you to provide care for a simulated patient. You decide which diagnostic information to obtain and how to treat and monitor the

patient's progress. The computer records each step you take in caring for the patient and scores your overall performance. This format permits assessment of clinical decision-making skills in a more realistic and integrated manner than other available formats.

In Primum CCS, you may request information from the history and physical examination; order laboratory studies, procedures, and consultants; and start medications and other therapies. Any of the thousands of possible entries that you type on the "order sheet" are processed and verified by the "clerk." When you have confirmed that there is nothing further you wish to do, you decide when to reevaluate the patient by advancing simulated time. As time passes, the patient's condition changes based on the underlying problem and your interventions; results of tests are reported, and results of interventions must be monitored. You suspend the movement of simulated time as you consider next steps. While you cannot go back in time, you can change your orders to reflect your updated management plan.

The patient's chart contains, in addition to the order sheet, the reports resulting from your orders. By selecting the appropriate chart tabs, you can review vital signs, progress notes, patient updates, and test results. You may care for and move the patient among the office, home, emergency department, intensive care unit, and hospital ward.

The cases used in the CCS portion are based upon a CCS examination blueprint. The blueprint defines the requirements for CCS examination forms. The CCS blueprint is used to construct CCS examination forms focusing primarily on presenting symptoms and presenting locations. Presenting symptoms relate to the Problem/Disease List and are associated with the central nervous system, eye/ear/nose/mouth/throat, respiratory system, circulatory system, digestive system, behavioral/emotional disorders, musculoskeletal system, skin/subcutaneous tissue, endocrine/nutrition/metabolic disorders, kidneys/urinary tract, reproductive system, pregnancy/childbirth, neonate/childhood illnesses, blood and blood-forming organs, infectious/parasitic diseases, injuries/wound/toxic effects/burns, and health maintenance issues. Presenting locations include the outpatient office, emergency department, inpatient unit, intensive care unit, and the patient's home.

You will see cases related to some, but not all, of these problem/disease and location categories. The intent is to ensure that all examinees encounter a broad range of cases reflecting common and important symptoms and diagnoses. The selection of cases is also guided by specifications relating to age and gender. Each CCS examination form is structured to reflect a balance of cases that is fair and equitable for all examinees.

TEST LENGTH AND FORMAT

The MLE-G has approximately 480 multiple-choice test items, divided into blocks of 35 to 50 items. You will have 45 to 60 minutes to complete each of these blocks. There are approximately nine computer-based case simulations (see above) with one case in each block. You will have a maximum of 25 minutes to complete each of these blocks. The examination is administered in two eight-hour testing sessions.

During the defined time to complete the items in each block of multiple-choice items, you may answer the items in any order, review your responses, and change answers. After you exit the block, or when time expires, you can no longer review test items or change answers.

Case simulations must be taken in the order presented. After you exit the case or session, or when time expires, you can no longer review test items or cases, change answers, or collect additional information.

PRACTICING WITH THE SOFTWARE

Sample test materials to practice with the software (both multiple-choice items and Primum CCS cases) are available to eligible applicants and can be accessed from the TAQEEM™ website (<http://www.taqeem.ae>). You should acquaint yourself with the test software, including the Primum® CCS orientation materials, well before your test date to have a thorough understanding of how the software works. Practice time is not available on the test day, and test center staff are not authorized to provide instruction on use of the software. A brief tutorial on the test day provides a review of the test software, including navigation tools and examination format, prior to beginning the test. It does not provide an opportunity to practice.

Sample MLE-G test materials and further information on test content are available from the TAQEEM™ website, (<http://www.taqeem.ae>). **Note: The test descriptions provided here, including test length and number of test items or cases, may be changed at any time. Notice of any changes will be posted at the TAQEEM™ website.**

APPLICATION MATERIALS

If you meet the eligibility requirements (see page 5), you can apply to TAQEEM™ for sponsorship to sit for the MLE-G.

To request information on MLE-G eligibility requirements and application procedures, follow the instructions on the TAQEEM™ website or contact TAQEEM™ (see page 21).

After you obtain application materials, review and follow the application instructions to complete your application and submit it to TAQEEM™.

EXAMINEES WITH DISABILITIES REQUESTING TEST ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a documented disability for which you would like to request test accommodations, you must contact TAQEEM™ regarding procedures and requirements in advance of applying for the MLE-G. Amongst other things, you will be asked to advise TAQEEM™ as to the accommodations needed. When test accommodations are granted, score reports may include an annotation that an accommodation was granted. See the TAQEEM™ website (<http://www.taqeem.ae>) for further information about test accommodations.

OBTAINING AN ELIGIBILITY PERIOD

A three-month eligibility period, beginning on the first of the month, is assigned once your application has been processed and approved. The eligibility period is the block of time in which you are able to take the MLE-G.

Time for processing will vary depending on the volume of applications. Check the TAQEEM™ website for more detailed information on processing times.

SCHEDULING

Upon complete processing of your application and confirmation of eligibility, a Scheduling Permit will be issued to you with instructions for making an appointment at a Prometric Test Center. You should contact Prometric immediately to schedule your testing appointment. The Scheduling Permit specifies the eligibility period during which you must complete the examination. If you do not take the examination within your assigned eligibility period and wish to take it in the future, you must reapply by submitting a new application and fee(s). Please contact TAQEEM Examination Services at mle@taqem.ae for instructions regarding how to access your scheduling permit.

You should verify the information on your Scheduling Permit before scheduling your appointment. Your Scheduling Permit includes the following:

- your name (see Important Note at the bottom of page 12),
- the name of the examination,
- your eligibility period,
- your testing region,
- your Scheduling Number,
- your Candidate Identification Number (CIN)
- specific information for contacting Prometric to schedule your test dates.

Note: Your Scheduling Number is needed when you contact Prometric to schedule test dates. It differs from your Candidate Identification Number (CIN), which is your private key, and is needed to test. You will not be able to take the test if you do not bring your Scheduling Permit to the test center. Prometric does not have access to your CIN.

When scheduling test dates, please keep the following in mind:

- You must have your Scheduling Permit before you contact Prometric to schedule a testing appointment. Appointments are assigned on a "first-come, first-served" basis; therefore, you should contact Prometric to schedule your testing appointment as soon as possible after you receive your Scheduling Permit.
- You may take the test on any day that it is offered during your assigned eligibility period, provided there is space at the Prometric Test Center you choose.
- Prometric Test Centers are closed on major local holidays.

- MLE-G is not available during the first two weeks of January.
- Some, but not all, Prometric Test Centers are open on weekend days. When you schedule your test dates, the two days on which you take the test must be consecutive, unless the center is closed on the day that follows your first day of testing. In that event, Prometric will assign you to the next day the center is open for your second day of testing. In all other cases, you must take your examination on two consecutive days at the same test center.

<http://www.prometric.com>

Use the Prometric website for up-to-date information on the locations of Prometric Test Centers at which MLE-G is being offered and to schedule your test.

You will be required to provide information found only on your Scheduling Permit. It is important that you provide a valid telephone number and email address when scheduling your appointment to receive appointment Confirmation Notices and in the event that Prometric must contact you to reschedule your appointment. When you schedule your appointment, you will receive the following specific information.

- the confirmed test days, dates, and time;
- the address and telephone number of the Prometric Test Center where you will take the test; and
- your Prometric Confirmation Numbers.

After you schedule your appointment, you can print a confirmation of your appointment from the Prometric website. You will also receive a Confirmation Notice for each test day via email.

Scheduling an appointment for a specific date at a Prometric Test Center is not a guarantee that the scheduled test time or location will remain available. The Prometric Test Center at which you are scheduled may become unavailable after you have scheduled your appointment. In that event, Prometric will attempt to notify you using the telephone number and email address you provided when scheduling your original testing appointment to schedule you for a different time and/or center. However, on rare occasions, rescheduling your appointment for a different time or center may occur at the last minute. To avoid losses you would incur as a result, you should try to maintain flexibility in your travel arrangements. You are encouraged to confirm your testing appointment a week prior to your test date.

RESCHEDULING TEST DATES

If you are unable to keep your appointments on the scheduled dates or at the scheduled location, you may change your appointments by following the instructions on your Scheduling Permit for contacting Prometric. You will need to provide your Prometric Confirmation Numbers when you reschedule. Rescheduling and test center location changes must be made through the online scheduling system or by calling the Prometric Regional Registration Center. Leaving a message on a recorder or voicemail is not sufficient to change a test center location, date, or time.

To avoid incurring a rescheduling fee, you must cancel or reschedule your appointment by noon local time of the Regional Registration Center for your testing region at least five business days before your appointment. If you provide less than five business days' notice, Prometric will charge you a fee to reschedule your test date(s). Your rescheduled test date(s) must fall within your assigned eligibility period.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you cancel or miss your scheduled appointment, there is no guarantee that appointments during your eligibility period will be available at a given test center, or at any test center, when you attempt to reschedule.

ADMISSION TO THE TEST

When you arrive at the test center, you must present your Scheduling Permit and the required identification described on your Scheduling Permit. Acceptable forms of identification include the following forms of unexpired identification:

- passport,
- driver's license with photograph,
- national identity card,
- other form of unexpired, government-issued identification

Your identification must contain both your signature and recent (no more than 10 years earlier) photograph. If it contains your photograph but not your signature, you can use another form of unexpired identification that contains your signature, such as a student/employee identification card or a credit card, to supplement your photo-bearing, government-issued identification.

If you do not bring your Scheduling Permit and acceptable identification, you will not be admitted to the test. In that event, you must pay a fee to reschedule your test. Your rescheduled test date(s) must fall within your eligibility period.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Your name as it appears on your Scheduling Permit must match the name on your form(s) of identification exactly. The only acceptable differences are variations in capitalization; the presence of a middle name(s), middle initial or suffix on one document and its absence on the other; or the presence of a middle name(s) on one and middle initial on the other. If the name listed on your Scheduling Permit is not correct, contact TAQEEM™ immediately. The name on your ID must appear in the Latin alphabet, i.e. in “English language letters,” as it does on your Scheduling Permit.

TEST CENTERS AND TESTING CONDITIONS

Prometric provides computer-based testing services for academic assessment, professional licensure, and certification. The MLE-G is given at select Prometric Test Centers. These centers

provide the resources necessary for secure administration, including video and audio monitoring and recording, and use of digital cameras to record the identity of examinees.

Individual examinations are drawn from large pools of content-parallel test forms, that are in turn created from very large banks of test materials. Individual examinations vary within and across test centers, and within and across test days. Electronic encryption is employed to protect the security of item banks, test forms, and test responses. Physical security at test centers is maintained by proctoring and video surveillance and recording.

You should arrive at the Prometric Test Center 30 minutes before your scheduled testing appointment on your testing day(s). If you arrive after your appointment time, you may not be admitted. If you arrive more than 30 minutes after your scheduled testing appointment, you will not be admitted. In that event, you must pay a fee to Prometric to reschedule your test. Your rescheduled test date(s) must fall within your assigned eligibility period.

There are no waiting facilities for family and friends at the center; plan to meet them elsewhere after the examination ends.

<http://www.prometric.com>

Use the Prometric Test Center Locator for directions to Prometric Test Centers.

Upon arrival at the test center, you must present the required identification, sign a test center log, be photographed, and store your personal belongings in your assigned locker. You will be instructed to write your name and Candidate Identification Number (CIN) on one of the laminated writing surfaces provided. Test center staff will collect your Scheduling Permit and retain it at the Test Center Administrator's station. You may request access to the permit during the examination if it becomes necessary for you to rewrite the CIN on the laminated writing surface. In addition to the laminated writing surfaces, you will be provided with dry-erase markers and an eraser. Test center staff will escort you to your assigned testing station and provide brief instructions on use of the computer equipment. You must enter your CIN to start the examination. You may then take a brief tutorial prior to starting the first test block.

TESTING

The MLE-G is administered according to rules that are intended to ensure that no examinee or group of examinees receives unfair advantage on the examination, inadvertently or otherwise. The rules include standard test administration conditions consistent with the principles on which the examinations are developed and scored. For example, examinations are designed to sample knowledge across specified content domains, and unauthorized access to examination content prior to testing violates that principle.

If there is a reason to believe that the integrity of the examination process is jeopardized, your score may be delayed or withheld or TAQEEM™ may invalidate all or any part of an examination. If information indicates that continued testing would jeopardize the security of

examination materials or the integrity of scores, TAQEEM™ and NBME reserve the right to suspend or cancel test administration.

TESTING REGULATIONS AND RULES OF CONDUCT

Test center staff monitor all testing sessions. You must follow instructions of test center staff throughout the examination. Failure to do so may result in a determination of irregular behavior. See page 19 for a description of irregular behavior.

Test center staff are not authorized to answer questions from examinees regarding examination content, testing software, or scoring. Test center staff are also not authorized to answer inquiries with regard to registration or retesting.

If staff observe you violating test administration rules or engaging in other forms of irregular behavior during an examination, the center staff will not necessarily tell you of the observation at the time of the examination. Test center staff are required to report such incidents to TAQEEM™; each report is fully investigated.

PERSONAL ITEMS

Unauthorized possession of personal items while in the secure areas of the testing centers may lead to a finding of irregular behavior. It is important that you read and understand the rules regarding personal possessions. Unauthorized items include, but are not limited to:

- mechanical or electronic devices, such as cellular telephones, personal digital assistants (PDAs), calculators, watches of any type, electronic paging devices, recording or filming devices, radios;
- outerwear, such as coats, jackets, head wear, gloves;
- book bags, backpacks, handbags, briefcases, wallets;
- books, notes, written materials, or scratch paper;
- food, candy, gum, or beverages.

If you bring personal items to the test center, you must store them in a designated locker outside the secure testing area. Electronic and mechanical devices must be turned off and stored in the locker. You should keep in mind that the storage facilities are small. Personal items, including but not limited to the items described above, and their contents may be subject to inspection. Any materials that reasonably appear to be reproductions of any MLE-G examination materials will be confiscated. Making notes of any kind during an examination, except on the materials provided by the test center for this purpose, is not permitted.

RULES OF CONDUCT

When you apply to take the MLE-G, you are agreeing to the following Rules of Conduct:

1. You are the person named on the Scheduling Permit for the examination.
2. You will not give, receive, or obtain any form of unauthorized assistance during the examination or during breaks.
3. You will not have in your possession any formulas, study materials, notes, papers, or electronic devices of any kind unless you are out of the secure areas of the center.
4. You will place in a locker or cubicle all personal belongings, including mechanical or electronic devices, such as cellular telephones, watches, pagers, personal digital assistants (PDAs), calculators, recording or filming devices, radios, formulas, study materials, notes, papers, books, outerwear, such as coats, jackets, head wear and gloves, book bags, backpacks, briefcases, food, candy, gum or beverages, and your purse or wallet, before you enter the testing room.
5. You will not leave your testing station for breaks unless the break screen is visible on your monitor. It will be considered a violation of the Rules of Conduct if you indicate on the center log that your break screen is visible when it is not.
6. You may use a telephone or other communication device only during an authorized break. You may not use it for any purpose related to test content.
7. You will not remove materials in any form (written, printed, recorded, or any other type) from the test center.
8. All examination materials remain the property of the FSMB and NBME, and you will maintain the confidentiality of the materials, including the multiple-choice items, and the case content for Primum CCS. You will not reproduce or attempt to reproduce examination materials through memorization or any other means. Also, you will not provide information relating to examination content that may give or attempt to give unfair advantage to individuals who may be taking the examination. This includes postings on the Internet regarding examination content and/or answers.

If you violate these Rules of Conduct, you may be directed to leave the test center before you complete the examination. Also, evidence of violation of any test administration rule, including these Rules of Conduct, may result in actions being taken under TAQEEM™, USMLE, FSMB, and/or NBME policies and procedures on irregular behavior. If you are found to have engaged in irregular behavior, your score report and related documentation may include this finding, and you may be barred from taking the MLE-G, the USMLE, and/or any NBME examinations in the future.

Completing the Test

Once you begin a block of the test, no authorized breaks are provided during that block. Each block lasts approximately 45 to 60 minutes. During blocks, the block and daytime clocks continue to run even if you leave the testing room (e.g., for a personal emergency).

If you leave during a block, the test center staff will report that fact as an irregular incident. In addition, the "unauthorized break" screen may appear on the monitor at your workstation. As explained in the tutorial, the unauthorized break screen will appear after a defined period of

inactivity (no mouse click or key entry). Thirty seconds before the appearance of the unauthorized break screen, an "inactivity timeout" warning will appear. If you do not click as instructed on the warning screen, the unauthorized break screen will appear after 30 seconds. You will then have to enter your CIN in order to continue with the examination.

Each time you leave the testing room, you are required to sign out and sign in when you return. You must present your identification each time you sign in. Each block ends when its time expires or when you exit from it.

The test session ends when you have started and exited all blocks or the total time for the test expires. You will sign out as you leave the test center, hand in the laminated writing surfaces, and receive a notice that you appeared for the test day. Once you leave the test center, Prometric cannot reproduce the printout. Your Scheduling Permit will be returned to you for use at check-in on your following test day(s).

After you start an examination, you cannot cancel or reschedule that examination unless a technical problem prevents you from completing your examination. If you experience a computer problem during the test, notify test center staff immediately. The testing software is designed to allow the test to restart at the point it was interrupted. In most cases, your test can be restarted at the point of interruption with no loss of testing time. However, it is possible that a technical problem may occur that does not permit you to complete your examination. In the rare event that this occurs, please send a written description of the incident to TAQEEM™ (refer to Test Administration Problems/Inquiries section for details). Your problem will be thoroughly investigated, and TAQEEM™ will notify you of the results of the investigation.

How Break Time Works

Your entire testing session is scheduled for a fixed amount of time. The computer keeps track of your overall time and the time allocated for each block of the test. At the start of the testing session, you have a total of 45 minutes of break time. This allotment of time is used for authorized breaks between blocks and is also used to make transitions between items and between blocks. Authorized breaks include any time taken between test blocks whether you take a brief break at your seat or you leave the testing room. If you complete the tutorial or other blocks of the test early, the remaining time will be available as break time. It will not be available to complete other blocks of the test.

As you progress through the blocks of the test, you should use the features available in the testing software to monitor how many blocks are remaining and how much break time is remaining. If you take too much break time and exceed the allocated or accumulated break time, your time to complete the last block(s) in the testing session will be reduced. You should keep track of the number of blocks completed and the number remaining.

When block time runs out, you will not be able to move to any new screens within that block. The computer will close the block. After you complete or run out of time for each block during the test, you must respond when the computer asks you to indicate whether you want to take a

break or continue. After the test blocks, you may be asked to complete a survey about your testing experience.

EXAMINATION RESULTS AND SCORING

As you take the MLE-G, your responses will be recorded and stored by the computer. After your test ends, your responses are transmitted to the NBME for scoring. The number of test items you answer correctly is converted to a scaled score that ranges from 200 to 800.

Score reports show your scores and an indication of whether you passed or failed.

Except as otherwise specified below, to receive a score, you must begin every block of the test. If you do not begin every block, no results are reported and your examination will be considered incomplete. If your examination is incomplete, you may request that a score be calculated and reported, with all missed test items or cases scored as incorrect. This score is likely to be lower than the score you would have achieved had you completed all blocks of the examination.

Scoring for Multiple-Choice Items

Multiple-choice items are provided in blocks of approximately 45 to 60 minutes. Blocks of items are constructed to meet specific content specifications. As a result, the combination of blocks of items creates a form of the examination that is comparable in content to all other forms. The percentage of correctly answered items required to pass varies from form to form. However, examinees typically must correctly answer 60 to 70 percent of items to achieve a passing score.

Scoring for Primum Computer-Based Case Simulations (CCS)

The CCS scoring process compares your patient management strategy with policies obtained from experts. Actions resembling a range of optimal strategies will produce a higher score. You must balance thoroughness, efficiency, avoidance of risk, and timeliness in responding to the clinical situation. Dangerous and unnecessary actions will detract from your score.

EXAMINEE SCORE REPORTS AND MINIMUM PASSING SCORES

Your score report includes a pass/fail designation and numerical score. Performance standards for the MLE-G are based on a specified level of proficiency. As a result, no predetermined percentage of examinees will pass or fail the examination. The minimum passing level is reviewed periodically and may be adjusted at any time. Notice of such review and any adjustments will be posted at the TAQEEM™ website (<http://www.taqeem.ae>).

A statistical procedure ensures that the performance required to pass each test form is equivalent to that needed to pass other forms; this process also places scores from different forms on a common scale.

Your performance on the case simulations will affect your score and could affect whether you pass or fail. The proportional contribution of the score on the case simulations is no greater than the amount of time you are allowed for the case simulations.

SCORE RECHECKS

Standard quality assurance procedures ensure that the scores reported for you accurately reflect the responses recorded by the computer. When a request for a score recheck is received, your original response record is retrieved and rescored using a system that is outside of the normal processing routine. The rechecked score is then compared with your original score.

A change in your score or in your pass/fail outcome based on a recheck is an extremely remote possibility. However, a recheck will be done if you submit a written request and service fee to TAQEEM™. Your request must be received no later than 90 days after your result was released.

SCORE REPORTING

When your scores are available, TAQEEM™ will notify you by email and invite you to access the TAQEEM™ web portal where you will be able to review and retrieve your score report. Please contact TAQEEM Examination Services at mle@taqem.ae for instructions regarding how to access your scores.

In addition to the above, if you decide to pursue medical licensure in the USA, US medical licensing authorities will be notified of all prior MLE-G test activity, including number of attempts. NBME also reserves the right to report the results of the MLE-G to the FSMB and USMLE program.

Examination data may be used by TAQEEM™, the NBME, or made available to third parties for research. In such instances, the data will be confidential, and individual examinees will not be identified in any publication. If you do not wish your score to be made available for research purposes, you must advise TAQEEM™ in writing.

VALIDITY OF SCORES

The validity of scores reported for the MLE-G is assured by every means available. Your scores may be classified as “indeterminate” if the scores are at or above the passing level and TAQEEM™ or NBME cannot certify that they represent a valid measure of your knowledge or competence as sampled by the examination. Such a determination may be made when aberrancies in performance are detected for which there is no reasonable and satisfactory explanation. A classification of indeterminate may result from irregular behavior (see following section) or from other factors, such as unexplained inconsistency in performance between takes of the same examination.

The performance of all examinees is monitored and may be analyzed statistically to detect aberrancies indicating that your scores may be indeterminate. In addition, evidence of irregular behavior may suggest that your scores do not represent a valid measure of your knowledge or competence as sampled by the examination. In these circumstances, your score report may be delayed, pending completion of further analysis and investigation. If your score report is delayed, you will be notified. You will be provided with a copy of the policies and procedures regarding indeterminate scores, which describes the process for reaching final decisions. You will have an opportunity to provide information that you consider relevant.

After review and analysis of all available information, scores will be classified as valid and will be reported, or scores will be classified as indeterminate. If the scores are classified as indeterminate, you will be advised of the options for retaking the examination. In general, scores classified as indeterminate will not be reported to anyone. However, anyone who has received a report of scores that are later classified as indeterminate may be notified of the indeterminate classification.

If irregular behavior appears to have contributed to a decision that your scores are indeterminate, action will also be taken as described below.

IRREGULAR BEHAVIOR

Irregular behavior includes any action by applicants, examinees, potential applicants, or others when solicited by an applicant and/or examinee that subverts or attempts to subvert the examination process.

Specific examples of conduct that is deemed to be irregular behavior include, but are not limited to, the following:

- seeking and/or obtaining unauthorized access to examination materials;
- providing false information or making false statements on or in connection with application forms, Scheduling Permits, or other MLE-G-related documents;
- taking or attempting to take an examination without being eligible to take it;
- impersonating an examinee or engaging someone else to take the examination for you;
- giving, receiving, or obtaining unauthorized assistance during the examination or attempting to do so;
- making notes of any kind while in the secure areas of the test center except on the writing materials provided at the test center for this purpose;
- failing to adhere to any policy, procedure, or rule, including instructions of the test center staff;
- verbal or physical harassment of test center staff or other disruptive or unprofessional behavior at a test center;
- possessing any unauthorized materials, including written materials, photographic equipment, or communication or recording devices, including electronic paging devices and cellular telephones, in the secure testing areas;
- altering or misrepresenting examination scores;

- any unauthorized reproduction by any means, including reconstruction through memorization and/or dictation, and/or dissemination of copyrighted examination materials by any means, including the Internet; and
- communicating or attempting to communicate about specific test items, cases, and/or answers with another examinee, potential examinee, or formal or informal test preparation group at any time before, during, or after an examination.

NOTE: Looking in the direction of another examinee's computer monitor or talking to another examinee during the examination may be reported as evidence of giving, receiving, or obtaining unauthorized assistance. The report may result in a determination of irregular behavior. Discussion of examination content or answers on the Internet may also result in a determination of irregular behavior.

If you have information or evidence indicating that any type of irregular behavior or any infringement of legal rights has occurred, you should submit a written report to or telephone TAQEEM™.

If information received suggests that irregular behavior has occurred, statistical analyses may be conducted and additional information may be gathered.

You will be advised of the alleged irregular behavior, and you will have an opportunity to provide information that you consider relevant to the evaluation of the allegation. Your scores may be withheld, if they have not been reported previously. Applications may not be processed, and you may not be permitted to take subsequent examinations until a final decision regarding irregular behavior is made. You will be provided with a copy of the policies and procedures regarding irregular behavior, which describes in detail the process for reaching final decisions regarding irregular behavior. If the evidence suggests that the alleged irregular behavior affects score validity, the score will also be reviewed as described on page 18.

If it is determined that you engaged in irregular behavior, information regarding this determination becomes part of your record. Your score report (if applicable) will contain a notation regarding the irregular behavior.

If it is determined that the irregular behavior is egregious and/or threatens the integrity of the examination system, you may be barred from taking the MLE-G, the USMLE, and/or any NBME examinations in the future and/or special administrative procedures may be implemented for your future examinations. TAQEEM™ in DHCC, the USMLE program, the FSMB and the NBME also reserve the right to take such actions when information regarding behavior of examinees on predecessor examinations indicates such actions may be necessary to ensure the security of the examination.

APPLICATION INQUIRIES

For information on how to apply for MLE-G, application materials, and information on your application status or Scheduling Permit, contact TAQEEM™ at:

Mailing Address: Examination Services
TAQEEM™
P.O.Box.505001
Dubai, UAE

Telephone: +971 4 424 8610

Email: mle@taqem.ae

Website: <http://www.taqem.ae>

SCHEDULING AND TEST CENTER INQUIRIES

Your Scheduling Permit includes instructions on how to contact Prometric to schedule your appointment to take the test. Inquiries about your appointment, such as a request to reschedule an appointment within your eligibility period, must be directed to Prometric. For current information on the locations of Prometric Test Centers, visit the Prometric website.

After you receive your Scheduling Permit, you can contact Prometric directly, as instructed on the Permit, for current information on a particular test center.

<http://www.prometric.com>

Use the Prometric Test Center Locator for up-to-date information on the locations of Prometric Test Centers.

If you receive a Scheduling Permit but experience a problem that testing center staff are unable to resolve in scheduling your appointment or in administering your test on the testing day, you may contact TAQEEM™ (see above).

TEST ADMINISTRATION PROBLEMS/INQUIRIES

If you wish to report a problem experienced during the administration of the examination that test center staff were unable to resolve to your satisfaction, you may forward a written description of your experience to TAQEEM™. Your correspondence also should include your name, your ID number, the examination name (MLE-G), date of administration, test center location, and a detailed description of the difficulty experienced. Your report will be thoroughly investigated and evaluated. You will receive written notification of the results of the investigation.

GENERAL INQUIRIES

Complete information about the MLE-G is available at the TAQEEM™ website. General inquiries regarding the MLE-G may be directed to TAQEEM™, via the contact information provided above.

MLE-G AND MEDICAL LICENSURE INQUIRIES

Inquiries for MLE-G applications and general questions on licensure for general medical practice may be directed to the TAQEEM™, via the contact information provided above.

If the candidate later pursues licensure in the US, US licensing authorities will be notified of all prior MLE-G test activity, including the number of attempts. NBME also reserves the right to report the results of the MLE-G to FSMB and USMLE.