



**UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS**

*THE UEMS Section of Surgery/Breast Surgery
Division*

The European Breast Examination: Criteria for selection of Examiners.

The UEMS Division of Breast Surgery, in collaboration with EUSOMA and the European Society of Surgical Oncology (ESSO), runs the EBSQ examination (European Board of Surgery Qualification) in Breast Surgery. The first examination was held in 2010 and since this time more than 120 candidates have successfully taken the exam.

The aim of the exam is to test applied and theoretical knowledge of the management of breast diseases to the highest European standard such that successful candidates can rightly be termed European Breast Specialist. It expects knowledge of the latest research and most advanced surgical techniques. Consequently examiners for the EBSQ in Breast Surgery must be acknowledged and recognized European leaders in this field of practice.

There are 2 methods by which an examiner may be appointed.

- 1. National Breast Surgery societies from all European Countries are able to nominate a delegate who will participate in the exam process subject to the following criteria:**
 - a. Breast surgeon with a minimum of 5 years experience at consultant level (general, plastic or gynaecology surgeon by training)
 - b. Working in a center active in teaching, training and research
 - c. Case load of 100+ breast cancers per year (or pro rata if part time)
 - d. Track record of publication in breast surgery/oncology/reconstruction with at least 10 papers published within the last 5 years
 - e. Experience of post graduate examining
 - f. An excellent reputation in their home nation in the field of breast surgery.
 - g. Must attend the exam as an observer at least once OR have taken and passed the exam themselves
 - h. All examiners must have certified attendance at equality and diversity training within the past 2 years of application.
 - i. Evidence of regular attendance at CME approved breast courses/congresses at least once every 2 years.
 - j. Two referees either from the breast exam board, the national society or other person of high professional standing in the field of breast surgery (HoD, Professor)

- 2. Nomination by the EBSQ board, subject to the same criteria as above.**

Review of applications:

All candidates CVs will then be reviewed at the next EBSQ board and notified in writing of their acceptance or otherwise within 4 weeks of the meeting and placed into our examiner pool.

Duties of Examiners:

1. If requested, to attend the oral examination including the pre exam standard setting session and the examiners briefing after the exam
2. If requested, to contribute questions for the MCQ and oral examination
3. If requested, to assist with standard setting processes (Anghoff referencing of the exam to set the pass mark
4. To maintain the absolute confidentiality of exam materials before and after the exam.
5. Not to engage in any PAID activities relating to exam preparation for the EBSQ
6. In the case that a candidate is personally known to the examiner (defined as having worked as a colleague in the same unit within the previous 3 years, a relative, personal friend/partner) to notify the exam board or invigilator as soon as is practicable to prevent conflict of interest.
7. To keep themselves up to date with the latest research in breast surgery
8. The term of office as an examiner is normally 5 years but may be renewed once.

Travel Expenses.

If the examiner is a nationally sponsored delegate, it is expected that their travel and accommodation costs will be met by their sponsoring organization

If not, or if the national organization is not able to fund, the EBSQ will fund standard class travel to the venue and overnight accommodation for either 1 or 2 nights.

Incidental expenses such as meal allowance will be paid up to £30 per day on submission of a receipt.