

Intercollegiate Specialty Exam Board Chair Report

Elizabeth Belcher



Board Membership 2026

Miss Elizabeth Belcher	Chair
Mr Neil Carwright	Leader, Panel of Question Writers [S1]
Miss Juliet King	Leader, Panel of Question Writers [S2]
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Mr Steven Rooney	RCSEd
Prof Farah Bhatti	RCSEng
Mr Vincent Young	RCSI
Mr Manoj Kuduvalli	RCPSGlas
Mr Andrew Parry	SCTS
Mr Mark Jones	SAC Chair
Mr Alexander Smith	SCTS Trainee Representative

Panel of Examiners

As the Board Chair, I would like to thank the JCIE Panel of Examiners for their commitment to delivering the Cardiothoracic Section 2 examinations despite their clinical responsibilities. Their dedication to the examination has enabled us to deliver a successive 32-candidate diets within our relatively small specialty. Their attendance directly assists in the Section 2 waiting list reduction we have seen over the last year. Examiner numbers and demographics are shown below:

Female Oct 2015	Female Current	Male Oct 2015	Male Current	Not Declared
1	8	42	43	14

Examiner Applications

The Panel of Examiners represent all four nations, but not all training regions and Trusts. We welcome applications to the Panel of Question Writers and to the Section 2 Panel of Examiners. Consultant surgeons and Specialty and Associate Specialist doctors may apply to the Panel of Question Writers from the date of their appointment. Consultants who have completed five years in a substantive post can apply to the Section 2 Panel of Examiners. Criteria for appointment and the process of application can be found in the links below:

<https://www.jcie.org.uk/content/content.aspx?ID=41>

<https://www.jcie.org.uk/content/content.aspx?ID=23>

Results for Intercollegiate Specialty Examination in Cardiothoracic Surgery

Summary of results from Section 2 held on 21/22 May 2025 in Blackpool

24 out of 29 candidates (83%) passed the examination

Type 1 (3a-2015 Regs) – 13 out of 13 passed (100%)

Type 2 (3b-2015 Regs) – 0 presented

Maltese trainees – 1 out of 1 passed (100%)

Not in Training (O-2015 Regs) – 10 out of 15 passed (67%)

Candidate Feedback response rate: 66%

SEM: 2.31% (desired value: SEM < 5%). Reliability: 0.84 (desired value: $r > 0.7$)

Summary of results from Section 2 held on 22/23 October 2025 in London (Ealing)

20 out of 32 candidates (63%) passed the examination

Type 1 (3a-2015 Regs) – 11 out of 12 passed (92%)

Type 2 (3b-2015 Regs) – 0 presented

Maltese trainees – 0 presented

Not in Training (O-2015 Regs) – 9 out of 20 passed (45%)

Candidate Feedback response rate: 66%

SEM: 2.61% (desired value: SEM < 5%). Reliability: 0.79 (desired value: $r > 0.7$)

Summary of results from Section 1 held on 2nd July 2025

15 out of 33 candidates (45%) were granted eligibility to proceed to Section 2

Type 1 trainees (3a-2015 Regs) – 11 out of 16 passed (69%)

Type 2 trainees (3b-2015 Regs) – Nil presented

Maltese trainees – 1 out of 1 passed (100%)

Not in training (O-2015 Regs) – 3 out of 16 passed (19%)

Candidate Feedback response rate: 27%

SEM: 2.84% (desired value: SEM < 3%). Reliability: 0.85 (desired value: $r > 0.8$)

Summary of results from Section 1 held on 14th January 2026

28 out of 43 candidates (65%) were granted eligibility to proceed to Section 2

Type 1 trainees (3a-2015 Regs) – 11 out of 14 passed (79%)

Type 2 trainees (3b-2015 Regs) – Nil presented

Maltese trainees – 1 out of 1 passed (100%)

Not in training (O-2015 Regs) – 16 out of 28 passed (57%)

Candidate Feedback response rate: 37%

Future examiners and application dates are available via the link below:

<https://www.jcie.org.uk/calendar/calendar.aspx>

Exam Resources

New Section 1 sample SBA questions are available on the JCIE website. These sample questions align with the feedback domains. The sample set increases the number of questions available from 5 to 50. Each question has the correct answer available, together with supporting details. Sample questions can be accessed via the link below:

<https://www.jcie.org.uk/content/content.aspx?ID=13>

JSCFE

The JSCFE examination will end with the final Section 2 examination in Edinburgh in November 2026. Candidates who do not complete Section 2 of the JSCFE examination may be eligible to receive a Certificate in Cardiothoracic Surgical Sciences in recognition of their achievement in Section 1.
