

January 30, 2001

Dear Colleagues:

Happy New Year! The Joint Generalist (MT/MLT) Examination Committee extends its greetings. In attendance at the 2000 meeting in Chicago were the eleven committee members and two invited guests. Working with the ASCP staff, committee members had a very productive meeting. The outcomes are summarized below.

### **Review of Examination Item Pool for 2001**

Committee members reviewed existing examination item pool questions for both the MT and MLT generalist examinations. This included approximately 2500 questions. Questions were reviewed by content area along with all digitized color slides. Corrections, deletions, and revisions were made and replacement images chosen as needed. Committee members referred to the ASCP Technical Curricula for MT and MLT Programs from the 1995 Albuquerque, New Mexico Educator's Consensus Conference. They also used the "Updates to Technical Curricula" summary that is enclosed with this letter. This is a listing of the MT/MLT additions and deletions to the examination item pools that were previously documented in BOR Newsletter publications and in letters to program directors. It includes changes from 1997 to 2000. This information is also available at the ASCP web site  
– [www.ascp.org/certification/ForProgramDirectors/](http://www.ascp.org/certification/ForProgramDirectors/)

Please remember that any deletion of concepts by the examination committee does not mean that they must no longer be included in a program's curriculum. We believe that MT/MLT educators can best determine their curriculum content based on the areas of the country they serve. Also, these deletions and other changes that were decided at the 2000 meeting will be implemented 2001.

### **New Examination Items**

Committee members submitted and reviewed approximately 200 new examination items. It is important to note that all new questions are field-tested for one year. So new questions submitted and reviewed at the 2000 meeting will appear in the MT/MLT examination beginning 2002.

## Additions and Deletions to MT/MLT Question Pools

### Microbiology

#### Additions:

MT: *Bartonella hensulae*  
Nucleic acid probe  
PYR test  
Chlamydoconidia, blastoconidia, arthroconidia (replacing “spore” with “conidia”)

MLT: *Edwardsiella*

### Hematology

Maintain current standards for NCCLS

### Immunology

#### Additions:

MT: IFE  
HIV-I immunoblotting using CDC criteria

#### Note:

ASO titer reported in Todd units was deleted previously. The concept for strep serology with ASO, however, remains on the test.

RID – Radial immunodiffusion is not on the examination, however double diffusion and immunodiffusion remain.

### Immunohematology (Blood Bank)

The terminology for examination items is based on current AABB Standards

### Chemistry

Additions: Reverse T<sub>3</sub> and THBR (Thyroid Hormone Binding Rates)  
Copper  
Zinc  
Ceruloplasmin  
Fetal Lung Maturity (fluorescent polarization albumin)

Deletions: LS Ratio  
T<sub>3</sub> uptake

## **Committee Members Take MT/MLT Exams**

During Fall 2000, several committee members posed as students and took the MT and MLT generalist examinations. This was under the direction of BOR staff. It provided the opportunity to experience the testing facilities and personnel. Committee members also were able to view the digitized images and determine if they are of equal quality as to when observed on the computers used during the 2000 meeting. BOR staff are reviewing the comments and observations of the committee members. This valuable information will be used to improve the testing process.

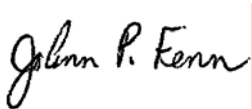
## **MT/MLT Task Lists**

The MT/MLT task lists were reviewed, which is done each year. These are guidelines for applicants seeking to qualify for an examination through a combination of education and work experience.

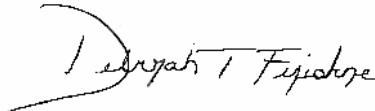
If there are any questions or comments regarding this information please contact the committee chairperson, JoAnn Fenn, MS, MT (ASCP), Department of Pathology, University of Utah School of Medicine, 50 North Medical Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah 84132; (801) 581-3971. Another contact person is Laura Culver Edgar, MBA, MT(ASCP) at ASCP in Chicago, Illinois.

We welcome your reactions and thoughts about the MT/MLT generalist examinations. It is a pleasure serving you, and we thank you for your continued help and support of the certification process.

Sincerely,



JoAnn P. Fenn, MS, MT (ASCP)  
Chairman  
Joint Generalist Committee



Deborah Firestone, MS, MT (ASCP)SBB  
Vice Chairman  
Joint Generalist Committee

Committee Members:

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