

Clinical Oncology Exam Pass Rates 2018 - 2022

The following report is a summary of exam pass rates over the last five years of sittings.

Key:

n/a no sitting was scheduled to take place at that time or the data is not available

cancelled sitting was cancelled due to COVID restrictions

Spring exam usually takes place in late February or early March

Autumn exam usually takes place in late August or early September

Table 1: Pass rates (%) – all candidates

		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Average
CO1: CB&RB	Spring	53.8	57.0	61.8	76.7	61.9	62.2
	Autumn	64.9	62.0	76.7	64.6	70.5	67.7
CO1: CP	Spring	58.8	75.5	64.6	82.3	79.4	72.1
	Autumn	48.3	51.1	49.3	60.6	51.4	52.1
CO1: PH	Spring	53.9	63.4	59.6	77.0	71.9	65.2
	Autumn	47.1	57.3	73.8	45.5	59.5	56.6
CO1: MS	Spring	57.0	63.2	51.8	70.7	70.5	62.6
	Autumn	68.5	54.8	76.9	48.8	68.0	63.4
CO2A	Spring	47.1	62.7	36.4	69.4	57.9	54.7
	Autumn	52.8	56.0	71.9	64.0	52.8	59.5
CO2B	Spring	52.7	54.0	cancelled	68.3	50.6	56.4
	Autumn	59.0	53.8	89.9	72.2	68.2	68.6

Table 2: Pass rates (%) for UK trainees and global candidates

		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
		UK	global	UK	global	UK	global	UK	global	UK	global
CO1: CB&RB	Spring	78	41	58	56	81	53	78	76	62	62
	Autumn	66	64	71	37	78	74	72	57	70	71
CO1: CP	Spring	88	44	67	81	88	55	94	75	89	75
	Autumn	62	34	66	40	44	63	77	47	71	35
CO1: PH	Spring	65	47	71	56	70	54	76	78	81	67
	Autumn	56	38	65	52	70	79	56	35	57	62
CO1: MS	Spring	71	49	67	60	74	41	82	66	86	63
	Autumn	74	63	71	44	71	88	76	22	78	61
CO2A	Spring	70	26	62	63	53	19	74	66	70	51
	Autumn	71	35	60	52	71	78	68	52	68	45
CO2B	Spring	62	33	63	45	cancelled		71	63	84	31
	Autumn	69	37	70	39	89	100	78	64	88	60

Notes:

- Global pass rates include NHS contributors (doctors working in the UK contributing to the NHS oncology workforce but outside of a registered training programme)

Table 3: Pass rates (%) – UK first attempt candidates

		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Average
CO1: CB&RB	Spring	79	50	89	79	69	73.2
	Autumn	71	73	87	74	68	74.6
CO1: CP	Spring	73	60	86	89	91	79.8
	Autumn	60	72	48	75	70	65
CO1: PH	Spring	69	64	77	69	79	71.6
	Autumn	56	67	81	57	57	63.6
CO1: MS	Spring	83	62	79	78	84	77.2
	Autumn	79	85	72	81	79	79.2
CO2A	Spring	80	67	71	75	75	73.6
	Autumn	75	61	71	76	67	70
CO2B	Spring	56	64	cancelled	73	81	68.5
	Autumn	71	70	88	85	85	79.8

Table 4: Candidate numbers by exam sitting (all candidates and UK trainees)

		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
		All	UK	All	UK	All	UK	All	UK	All	UK
CO1: CB&RB	Spring	93	32	93	36	102	32	129	45	105	37
	Autumn	114	61	142	58	73	54	96	47	139	67
	Year	207	93	235	94	175	86	225	92	244	104
CO1: CP	Spring	97	33	106	39	116	33	147	54	102	35
	Autumn	116	60	139	59	73	54	94	43	138	63
	Year	213	93	245	98	189	87	241	97	240	98
CO1: PH	Spring	115	43	112	51	109	37	126	50	128	42
	Autumn	119	61	143	57	84	50	88	45	153	69
	Year	234	104	255	108	193	87	214	95	281	111
CO1: MS	Spring	121	45	95	42	110	35	123	38	122	42
	Autumn	124	62	124	51	91	58	82	41	147	63
	Year	245	107	219	93	201	93	205	79	269	105
CO2A	Spring	68	33	83	34	77	40	108	46	107	37
	Autumn	72	38	91	47	64	49	86	54	106	40
	Year	140	71	174	81	141	89	194	100	213	77
CO2B	Spring	55	37	63	32	n/a	n/a	78	53	87	32
	Autumn	61	42	78	37	79	72	78	45	107	32
	Year	116	79	141	69	79	72	156	98	194	64
Overall	Totals	1155	551	1269	543	978	514	1235	561	1441	559

Notes:

- For CO1 modules it is the modular attempts which are counted, rather than actual number of individual candidates.