

EECC 2026

Exam preparation - EECC preparatory course



Exam preparation

The EECC is designed to test a wide range of cardiology knowledge aligned with the ESC core curriculum.

There is no single source from which all questions are developed, and you are encouraged to read widely, including ESC guidelines, the ESC textbook and practice-changing clinical trials.

Registering for EECC 2026 gives you access to the **EECC Preparatory Course**, which includes a variety of resources designed to support candidates in their exam preparation.

This course is structured around the **8 chapters** of the [*2020 ESC Core Curriculum for the Cardiologist*](#).

A **mock exam** consisting of **60 MCQs** will be made available **1 month before the exam**. The objectives of the mock exam are to familiarise you with the exam platform and question format, and to help you start testing your knowledge across the different chapters of the Core Curriculum.

Imaging

Coronary artery disease

Valvular heart disease

Rhythm disorders

Heart Failure

Cardiac patients in other settings

Prevention, rehabilitation, sport

Acute Cardiovascular Care





Introduction to the exam

Introduction to the European Examination in Core Cardiology
Editorial | 5 min

Module 1: Introduction to the preparatory module

Module 2: Imaging

Module 3: Coronary artery disease

Module 4: Valvular heart disease

Module 5: Rhythm disorders

Module 6: Heart failure

Module 7: Acute cardiovascular care

Module 8: Prevention, rehabilitation, sports

Module 9: Cardiac patients in other settings

Introduction to the Mock Exam

Mock Exam
Available on 09/05/22

Conclusions



PATH



ACTIVITY

Introduction to the European Examination in Core Cardiology



The European Examination in Core Cardiology (EECC) is a joint venture between the [European Society of Cardiology \(ESC\)](#) the [Union of European Medical Specialists](#), and the participating [National Cardiology Societies](#). It tests knowledge across the [ESC Core Curriculum](#), at the level required for independent practice. It does not test sub-specialty knowledge, and cannot test the skills and attitudes required of a cardiologist – these are assessed in other ways during training programmes.

The exam comprises 120 "best of 5" multiple choice questions delivered on-line with remote proctoring over 3-hours. The questions are written, edited and selected by a group of experienced cardiologists from around the world. The exam is set in English and all questions have a short clinical stem, a single question and 5 possible responses. Trainees are required to choose the best of the 5 options for the clinical scenario described. The questions are selected equally from the 4 sections – imaging and valvular heart disease; rhythm disorders; coronary artery disease, acute cardiovascular care, prevention, rehabilitation and sports; heart failure and cardiac patients in other settings. Approximately 70% of questions contain text only, and the remaining 30% include a still image or video loop – there are examples in each section of this module, and a practice exam at the end.

The pass mark is determined using the Hofstee method, which allows for adjustment of the pass mark according to the difficulty of the exam questions. Between 75% and 95% of candidates are expected to pass the EECC. A rectangle is formed by 2 standard deviation limits around the mean of the expected pass mark determined by the standard setting group. After any poorly performing questions have been excluded, the pass mark is at the intersection of a diagonal across this rectangle and the plot of the candidates' performance. In the last 5-years, the pass mark has been between 55 and 58% (66 and 70 correct questions).

Today, 24 National Societies are taking part in the EECC, and it is expected that around 800 candidates will register. Details about participating national societies, registration dates and fees, booking an exam time slot, preparation, delivery and the results are all on the [ESC website](#). Details of the EECC procedures are on the [UEMS website](#).

Good luck!

- [Behind the scenes of the European Examination in General Cardiology – Heart 2019](#)
- [About the European Examination in Core Cardiology \(EECC\) – ESC website](#)
- [European Examination in Core Cardiology – UEMS website](#)

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Access to the
EECC Preparatory
Course will be
granted from
16 March 2026

