



**Fellow of the European Board of Vascular Surgery – FEBVS
Structure of the Examination
May 2025**

There are five sections to the examination:

Section	Comment	Maximum score	Pass Mark
Academic	Review a paper from a journal.	32	24
Clinical Cases	Vivas on 4 clinical cases: Aortic, Lower Limb, Endovascular and Miscellaneous.	64	48
Overall Viva	Viva on several topics	32	24
Open Technical	Practical surgical skills test on three models: aortic anastomosis, femoro-distal anastomosis and carotid endarterectomy	48	36
Endovascular	Practical endovascular skills test on a model	32	24
Total score		208	156

Score

Each Examiner will score each aspect of the examination with a score from 4 to 8 (using a set of defined marking descriptors) with 6 representing a pass. To pass the examination a Candidate must achieve all of the following:

- 1. a total score of at least 156 out of the maximum possible 208, and**
- 2. pass at least two of the three open technical assessments, and one of the two endovascular sections and**
- 3. to pass at least 4 of the 5 sections.**

Dress Code

This is a professional Examination and the Candidate should be dressed accordingly. Jeans are not allowed. It is not allowed to take bags into the examination hall.

Mobile Phones

The mobile phones should be switched off during the exam, anyone found recording the examination will be immediately disqualified and his/her national society and base hospital informed of his/her actions.



1. Academic Paper

For the academic section a paper will be given and allowed 25 minutes to read it and make notes. The viva will be presented on a laptop, using a series of PowerPoint slides and will last 20 minutes.

2. Clinical Case Scenarios

These are real cases from throughout Europe and they will be presented on a Powerpoint presentation. The areas covered will include diagnosis and differential diagnosis, imaging modalities and interpretation, management plans and management of post operative complications. Each viva lasts 15 minutes.

3. Overall Viva

The overall viva will have several questions covering any aspect of vascular surgery and be presented on a laptop using PowerPoint. The overall viva will last 30 minutes.

4. Open Technical

Each open technical assessment will last 30 minutes. The Candidate has to undertake an aortic anastomosis, femorodistal anastomosis and a carotid endarterectomy.

You are advised to bring your own loupes for these technical assessments, as none will be available on the day of the exam. Do not bring any other surgical instruments as you will not be allowed to use them.

The assessor will provide assistance at a Candidate request but will not guide the Candidate through the operation. Plenty of time is allowed for the procedure and the Candidate is advised that it is not a race to finish first.

5. Endovascular

The endovascular assessment is a task using standard wires and catheters. The candidate has to undertake an iliac cross over manoeuvre and an angioplasty of the renal artery.