

EUROPEAN BOARD OF HAND SURGERY

GLOSSARY OF CONVENTIONAL TERMS

Every effort is made to ensure that the wording of questions is as clear and unambiguous as possible. For the purposes of the examination, certain conventional terms have the following meanings:

Timing of Intervention

Immediate within 3 hours
Urgent within 24 hours

Terminology

Characteristically, classically, predominantly and reliably:

Typically, frequently, commonly and usually

Often and tends to:

Has been shown, associated, recognised, treatment of choice, optimally, adequately and features which may present or may be caused by:

Imply that a feature would occur in at least

90% of cases

Imply that a feature would occur in at least

60% of cases

Imply that a feature would occur in at least

30% of cases

Refer to evidence which can be found in a modern authoritative source about the frequency with which the feature occurs

Figures

When figures are given in the context of epidemiology, round figures are to be treated as approximations and precise figures as exact values

For example, the figure of 30% does not imply exactly 30% but approximately 30% to within 5% either way. Conversely, the figure of 2% would mean that precisely this amount is indicated

Adapted from: Intercollegiate Specialty Boards, MCQ Guidelines