



No. : 2

INFORMATION SHEET  
SPECIALIST TRAINING FOR GENERAL PRACTICE

# THE MEMBERSHIP EXAMINATION

## CURRENT MRCGP

The current MRCGP examination has four modular elements :

- Multiple choice paper (MCP)
- Written paper (WP)
- Consulting skills - Video or simulated surgery
- Orals

Candidates must pass all four modules to be eligible for membership of the College. Modules may be taken at the same time or at different times in any order. All modules must be passed within three years of acceptance of the application for the examination. Candidates may have two further attempts at each module within that period.

The final date for acceptance of first time applications to the current MRCGP Examination will be 2nd February 2007. No new applications for the current MRCGP Examination will be accepted after this date. Any doctor wishing to apply to sit the membership examination from 3rd February 2007 would be required to complete the nMRCGP (see below).

For those applying for the current MRCGP examination until 2nd February 2007, the following options for attempting modules will be available :

|  | 2006  |                     | 2007 |                    | 2008      |      |
|--|-------|---------------------|------|--------------------|-----------|------|
| <b>Multiple Choice Paper</b>                   | April | October             | May  | October*           | February* | May* |
| <b>Written Paper</b>                           | April | October             | May  | October            |           | May  |
| <b>Oral Exam</b>                               | June  | November / December | June | November/ December |           | June |
| <b>Consulting Skills (Video)</b>               | May   | November            | May  | November           |           | May  |
| <b>Consulting Skills (Simulated Surgery)**</b> | July  | December            | July | -                  |           | -    |

### NOTES

- \* the Multiple Choice Paper will be superseded by the Applied Knowledge Test in August 2007. It is envisaged that the content and format of this new assessment will be similar to that of the current multiple choice paper.
- \*\* the Simulated Surgery module will not be offered after July 2007. Candidates unable to submit a video after this date because of insuperable difficulties will be able to sit the clinical skills component of the new assessment process. Prior permission will be required from the College.
- iii) Generally those who have not completed the current MRCGP by July 2008 will be required to submit to the nMRCGP. Further guidance will be issued by the RCGP.

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## THE MEMBERSHIP EXAMINATION ... CONTINUED

### THE NEW MRCGP (nMRCGP)

With effect from 3rd February 2007 all those wishing to apply to sit the Membership Examination of the College will be required to complete a new assessment package (subject to review following piloting and evaluation) comprising three elements :

- Applied Knowledge Test (AKT)
- Clinical Skills Assessment (CSA)
- Workplace Based Assessment (WPBA)

This new assessment package will replace both Summative Assessment and the current MRCGP examination and confer College membership. Those eligible to complete vocational training for general practice prior to August 2007 will continue to submit through Summative Assessment.

The College has produced a new curriculum for GP training on which the new assessment will be based (see link below). Development work is progressing on all three elements and further detail on the nMRCGP requirements will be available in Autumn 2006. The following outlines the current proposals, but all are subject to review following piloting and evaluation :

#### Applied Knowledge Test (AKT)

- Machine marked paper
- 200 items
- Mostly extended matching and single best answer questions
- 3 times per year (February, May, October)

#### Clinical Skills Assessment (CSA)

- An assessment of a doctor's ability to integrate and apply clinical, professional, communication and practical skills appropriate for general practice
- Multiple station OSCE format

#### Workplace Based Assessment (WPBA)

- Enhanced Trainers Report
- A number of externally moderated assessment tools (Deanery based)

For further information, please see :

[www.rcgp.org.uk](http://www.rcgp.org.uk)  
PTC Newsletter, September 2005  
Reith B, Designing Tomorrow  
The New Generalist Magazine, October 2005

Other useful websites :

[www.nosa.org.uk](http://www.nosa.org.uk)  
[www.rcgp.org.uk/certification](http://www.rcgp.org.uk/certification)