

## ASSOCIATION NOTES

## ACADEMY OF MEDICINE, SINGAPORE

The Office Bearers of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore for the year 1972/1973 are as follows:—

Master	Prof. Seah Cheng Siang, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Ed.), F.R.A.C.P., A.M.
Assistant Master	Dr. Chew Chin Hin, M.B.B.S., F.R.C.P. (Ed.), A.M.
Scribe	Dr. Beatrice Chen Tsung Mong, M.B.B.S., F.R.A.C.P., A.M.
Bursar	Mr. Choo Jim Eng, M.B.B.S., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), A.M.
Bedel	Mr. V. K. Pillay, M.D., M.Ch.(Orth.), F.R.C.S., F.R.A.C.S., A.M.

## Censors

Mr. N. Balachandran, M.B.B.S., F.R.C.S.(Ed.), F.R.C.S.(Eng.), M.Ch. Orth. (L'pool), A.M.
Mr. Yahya Cohen, F.R.C.S., F.A.C.S., F.R.A.C.S., A.M.
Mr. Leong Hin Seng, M.B.B.S., F.R.A.C.S., A.M.
Mr. Robert Loh Choo Kiat, M.B.B.S., D.O., F.R.C.S.(Ed.), F.A.C.S., A.M.
Mr. Tan Ngoh Chuan, M.B.B.S., F.R.A.C.S., F.A.C.S., A.M.

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## ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS OF MALAYSIA—1973

<i>President:</i>	Dr. M.F. R. Waters	<i>Committee Members:</i>	Dr. C. Balaratnam Dr. G. Ananda Dr. K. Rajagopal
<i>President Elect:</i>	Dr. S. M. Haq	<i>Honorary Auditors:</i>	Dr. Lee Kwok Ching Dr. Gopal Prathap
<i>Secretary-Treasurer:</i>	Dr. V. Mahadev		

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## POSTGRADUATE NEWSLETTER

## BOARD ON POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

## FACULTY OF MEDICINE

## UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

No. 2

4th December, 1972

## NOTICE OF EXAMINATIONS

*Royal Australasian College of Surgeons  
Part I Examination*

The first Part I F.R.A.C.S. examination in 1973 will be held in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, on Thursday, 22nd and Friday, 23rd February, 1973. The new examination will take the form of three 2-hour papers, each of 120 multiple choice questions.

For the examinations in 1973, candidates will be interviewed in all examination centres by a panel of two members nominated by Council, at least one of whom will be a local resident. The

interview will take place between the closing date for applications and the time of the examination. It will be designed to ascertain the progress a candidate has made in his basic training programme since graduation, but will not be concerned with syllabus content. The information gained from the interview will be used in conjunction with the results of the examination to assess educational programmes in the various centres. It may also be used to assist the Board in determining a candidate's examination result. The Board will determine whether a candidate who has failed will be interviewed when he next presents for the examination.

Application forms to sit for the examination may be obtained from the Examination Secretary, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, College of Surgeons' Gardens, Spring Street, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000, Australia, and must be submitted, together with a copy of the candidate's university certificate giving details of date of graduation, degrees held and an examination fee of \$75.00 (Australian) before the closing date which will be Friday, 12th January, 1973.

*Common Part I Examination  
Membership of the Royal College of Physicians  
United Kingdom (M.R.C.P., U.K.)*

The above examination will be held on Friday, 30th March, 1973 in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, and will consist of a multiple choice question paper. The closing date is six weeks before the examination.

Applicants who intend to sit for the above examination are requested to contact the Administrative Assistant, Board on Postgraduate Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, for application forms for the examination. Details of the common membership examination were given in the last postgraduate newsletter.

**"GUIDE TO SURGICAL TRAINING, 1971"**

Candidates are advised to obtain from the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons the above booklet, price A \$1.00. This contains an outline of the syllabus for the new Part I Examination.

The College is also preparing a manual of resource material to supplement this syllabus. This material is to be published progressively and will be available for purchase on application to the College.

The College recommends the following texts for the Part I Examination. These have been chosen because they are considered to be appropriate texts for basic surgical training:

ANATOMY	Gardner, Gray and O'Rahilly, 3rd Ed., Saunders, A \$19.00
GENERAL PATHOLOGY	Walter and Israel, 3rd Ed., Churchill, A \$22.50
REVIEW OF MEDICAL PHYSIOLOGY	Ganong, 5th Ed., Lange, A \$8.95
HISTOLOGY	Leeson and Leeson, 2nd Ed., Saunders, London, 1970. A \$11.00

**EXAMPLES OF MULTIPLE CHOICE  
QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMON PART I  
M.R.C.P. (U.K.)**

For the first time since the introduction in 1968 of the Common Part I Examination M.R.C.P.(U.K.), the Royal Colleges of Physicians in the United Kingdom have published a booklet of examples of 200 multiple-choice questions.

These are published as they appeared in recent Common Part I MRCP papers. After each examination, every question is reviewed by the Joint Examining Board in the light of the level of difficulty and discriminating power of each of its parts and of the question as a whole. Most questions are modified to some extent before being stored in the question bank. Questions drawn from the bank for possible re-use at a future date are re-scrutinised by the Board. In some cases, advances in medical knowledge may demand further modification.

The booklet (price £1.50) may be obtained from the individual Colleges. Addresses are as follows:—

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh  
9 Queen Street  
Edinburgh EH2 1JQ

Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Glasgow  
242 St Vincent Street  
Glasgow G2 5RJ

Royal College of Physicians of London  
Examination Office  
11 St Andrew's Place  
Regent's Park  
London NW1 4LE

**POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION  
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM**

Postgraduate education in the United Kingdom is designed primarily for United Kingdom graduates, and if those from overseas are to be suitably fitted in without undue waste of time it is important that arrangements should be made well in advance of their arrival. The British Postgraduate Medical Federation is glad to co-operate with bodies overseas who are concerned with postgraduate medical education, and it would be greatly to the advantage of the postgraduates themselves if other countries were to follow the example of Australia and New Zealand where in each University centre there is a Postgraduate Committee to advise prospective visitors to Britain. If a Committee endorses an application for postgraduate study in the U.K. it sends particulars of the applicant and his career to the Federation with an outline of the proposed

programme of work, and also confidential letters from appropriate referees. With advance information it is usually possible to arrange for the graduate to commence his studies soon after arrival. Such official sponsorship helps also to smooth over difficulties with immigration problems.

Clinical work in approved hospital posts is an essential part of postgraduate training for the majority of higher degrees and diplomas. With the limitation in the number of entry permits issued by the Government and the introduction of compulsory clinical assessment under the Department of Health's scheme for overseas doctors seeking hospital posts, it is advisable for applicants to have official sponsorship, particularly if the Federation is asked to support claims for exemption. It is essential that intending postgraduate students shall establish in advance their eligibility for British medical registration. Membership of a recognised medical protection society is necessary for those having clinical responsibility.

The majority coming from overseas need to earn their living for the greater part of the time they spend in this country, though sooner or later most of them attend a formal course of instruction during which they will not be earning. The holding of a suitable responsible salaried hospital appointment is undoubtedly the best form of postgraduate education, but for these appointments visiting postgraduates have to compete with graduates of U.K. Universities. The rise in output from medical schools in the U.K. will tend to fill the hospital

posts available, and there is likely to be a growing shortage of suitable training posts for overseas applicants.

In order to avoid the risk of having nothing to do for some time after their arrival many postgraduates prefer to enrol for a course of full-time study which can be arranged beforehand and during the course they are able to settle down to the conditions of life here. The Department of Health's compulsory clinical assessment scheme will help those who need a preliminary introduction to British medicine but pressure on attachments available under the scheme has increased. An applicant may have to wait several months and should on no account leave his own country without confirmation from the Department either that he has been accepted or that he is exempt from the assessment scheme. He is in any case recommended to apply well in advance in order that it can be determined whether or not exemption can be granted in his case.

Candidates cannot be accepted for certain courses (e.g. paediatrics, or advanced medicine) until they have had sufficient clinical experience to profit from the course, and they are therefore advised to gain this experience by training in approved hospital posts before leaving home. This is a matter on which the Postgraduate Committees overseas can offer helpful advice.

*(Extract from Handbook of British Postgraduate Medical Federation, Central Office, 33 Millman Street, London WC1N 3EJ.)*