Postgraduate Vascular Surgery

The Candidate’s Guide to the FRCS

Edited by

Vish Bhattacharya
Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Gerard Stansby
Freeman Hospital
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Contributors

Mohamed Abdelhamid
Department of Vascular Surgery,
University Hospital Birmingham
NHS Foundation Trust, Selly Oak Hospital,
Birmingham, UK

Hassan Badri
Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust,
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Sheriff Hill,
Gateshead, UK

Arun Balakrishnan
The Northern Vascular Centre,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Vish Bhattacharya
Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust,
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Sheriff Hill,
Gateshead, UK

Paul Blair
Department of Vascular Endovascular
Surgery, Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, UK

Julie Brittenden
University Department of Surgery,
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen,
UK

Rod Chalmers
University Department of Surgery,
Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh,
Edinburgh, UK

Mike Clarke
The Northern Vascular Centre,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Marcus Cleanthis
The Northern Vascular Centre,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

David M. Cressey
Department of Anaesthesia,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Chris Davies
Department of Vascular Surgery,
Southampton General Hospital,
Southampton, UK

Robert Davies
University Department of Vascular
Surgery, Heart of England NHS
Foundation Trust, Birmingham, UK

Jeremy French
Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Dharmendra Garg
Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust,
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Sheriff Hill,
Gateshead, UK

Robbie George
Department of Vascular Endovascular
Surgery, Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast,
UK

George Hamilton
University Department of Vascular
Surgery, Royal Free Hospital, London,
UK

Mathew Jacob
Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Mark Kay
Coventry and Warwickshire County
Vascular Unit, University Hospitals
Coventry, UK
List of contributors

David Lambert
The Northern Vascular Centre,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Tim Lees
The Northern Vascular Centre,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Asif Mahmood
Department of Surgery, Good
Hope Hospital, Sutton Coldfield,
Birmingham, UK

Derek Manas
Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Colette Marshall
Coventry and Warwickshire County
Vascular Unit, University Hospitals
Coventry, UK

David C. Mitchell
Department of Vascular Surgery,
Southmead Hospital, Westbury-on-Trym,
Bristol, UK

A. Ross Naylor
Department of Surgery, Leicester Royal
Infirmary, Leicester, UK

William D. Neary
Department of Vascular Surgery,
Southmead Hospital, Westbury-on-Trym,
Bristol, UK

Ian D. Nesbitt
Department of Anaesthesia,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Colin Nice
Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust,
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Sheriff Hill,
Gateshead, UK

Andrew Platts
Consultant Vascular Interventional
Radiologist, Vascular Unit, Royal Free
Hospital, University College Medical
School, London, UK

Jenny Richards
University of Edinburgh, Royal Infirmary
of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK

Mohammed Sharif
Department of Vascular and
Endovascular Surgery, Belfast City
Hospital, Belfast, UK

Cliff Shearman
Department of Vascular Surgery,
Southampton General Hospital,
Southampton, UK

Jonathan Smout
The Northern Vascular Centre,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Gerard Stansby
The Northern Vascular Centre,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Rajiv Vohra
Department of Vascular Surgery,
Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham, UK

Rob Williams
Department of Radiology,
Freeman Hospital, High Heaton,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Alasdair Wilson
Department of Surgery, University of
Aberdeen, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary,
Aberdeen, UK
Preface

Examinations are always challenging although less so for the well prepared. The Intercollegiate Exit Examination in Surgery, in particular, often causes considerable anguish for the candidates. It is expensive to fail the examination, both financially and emotionally. It is a high stake examination and comes at a critical stage in a young surgeon's career when he or she is nearing the end of training.

Over many years, and having discussed the examination with both successful and unsuccessful candidates, we felt that a book was required that would provide a quick, easy read for candidates already under pressure to cover a vast array of subjects. It would need to be pitched at the right level and would complement both clinical experience and aid personal revision.

This book has been divided into two sections. The clinical cases section has been written by two recently successful candidates who have incorporated the views of several trainees to make this section relevant to their needs.

The second section has been written by experts in their respective fields who have provided succinct chapters in a concise format. All the co-authors are surgical trainees, most of whom have passed the examination or are preparing for it. Key points have been mentioned at the beginning of the chapters to aid quick revision before the examinations. References have been deliberately kept to a minimum.

We thank all the contributors for their hard work and timely submission of manuscripts. We are especially grateful to Nick Dunton and Katie James of Cambridge University Press for their continuous support and timely reminders.

Though we appreciate the fact that it takes more than a book to pass the examinations we hope this book serves as a useful tool for candidates to achieve success. Good luck!