Final FRCR 2B Viva

A Survival Guide

Edited by

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For my parents, Tan Boon Keng and Ng Liew
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For Juliet and Matthew
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For my parents, Khin Khin Cho and Sein Hwat, and to all my family,
Jac, Rich, Hannah, Izzy and Nat
JA
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Foreword

This wonderful book has brought together radiologists in Britain, Australia and North America with a passion for education and talent for condensing key information into a succinct and useful format. The focus of the book is the preparation of radiologists in training for the final oral examination of their professional career and provides the trainees with a series of viva examination-type cases that comprehensively review most of what the competent radiology graduate needs to know. The book is an enjoyable read and, for the examination candidate, it provides an opportunity to confirm what is known and understood and which areas may require some additional attention as the examination approaches.

The images are high quality and representative of both common and important unusual conditions. The text for each case is presented as one would approach the subject in the viva examination, with description followed by crucial clinical questions and a brief discussion with suggestions for further reading. Experts in the subspecialty fields of clinical radiology and education in diagnostic imaging have been involved in the development of each section.

In addition to the examination candidate, the material is very suitable for those of us who are longer in the tooth and may be seeking continuing medical education through a non-confrontational method of self-evaluation. The material is applicable to radiologists anywhere in the world. The content is based on up-to-date reviews with many fine examples of conventional imaging and presentation of state-of-the-art cross-sectional studies that illustrate the timeless principles of diagnostic radiology.

I highly recommend this book to any candidate presenting themselves for Royal College or board examination on any continent. I also strongly encourage practising radiologists that are past this challenge to consider this excellent opportunity for self-assessment that will provide some direction for further improvement with the assurance that it will be equally educational and more enjoyable than repeating the test on both sides of the pond.

Dr Robert GW Lambert, MB BCh, FRCR, FRCPC, Professor and Chair, Department of Radiology and Diagnostic Imaging, University of Alberta
Preface

The inspiration for this book came from the legendary *An Aid to the MRCP Short Cases* by Ryder, Freeman and Mir. It was the single most helpful text when I (KTT) was preparing for the incredibly stressful MRCP exam many moons ago (I’m showing my age!). This was the book that was the foundation for the way I present my cases, and it has been tried and tested in both the FRCR and its close cousin the FRCPC.

It was therefore surprising to find no equivalent book designed for the FRCR on the market. Radiology is the most visual of the medical specialities. The basis of our practice is to be able to spot the abnormality and to communicate our findings effectively. This is basically what the FRCR 2B viva and equivalent exams worldwide are designed to assess. Indeed, to paraphrase a well-known physician, the FRCR is designed to teach as much as it is to test.

The core of this book consists of 263 cases that are typical of the FRCR viva. For each case, a presentation (a model answer) is provided to act as a ‘template’. There are many styles of case presentation, and this is reflected in the writing of the various chapter authors, all of whom have sat for and passed the FRCR exam (or the FRCPC).

Finally, facts that are clinically important but not readily available in common textbooks, or which could add the ‘wow factor’ during your exam presentation, are included in this text. We trust that in addition to helping you with the exam, this might also make a difference to your day-to-day practice.