Contents

Thanks ........................................ vi
To the teacher ................................ 1
To the student ................................ 2

Unit 1
Taking a history 1
1 Asking basic questions .............. 5
2 Taking notes ................................ 9
3 Reading skills: Scanning a case history 13
4 Case history: William Hudson .... 14

Unit 2
Taking a history 2
1 Asking about systems ............... 15
2 Asking about symptoms ............ 17
3 Reading skills: Noting information from a textbook 24
4 Case history: William Hudson ... 26

Unit 3
Examining a patient
1 Giving instructions .................. 28
2 Understanding forms ................. 32
3 Reading skills: Using a pharmacology reference 34
4 Case history: William Hudson ... 36

Unit 4
Special examinations
1 Instructing, explaining and reassuring 38
2 Rephrasing, encouraging and prompting 42
3 Reading skills: Reading articles 1 45
4 Case history: William Hudson ... 49

Unit 5
Investigations
1 Explaining and discussing investigations 50
2 Using medical documents .......... 56
3 Reading skills: Reading articles 2 61
4 Case history: William Hudson ... 63

Unit 6
Making a diagnosis
1 Discussing a diagnosis ............. 65
2 Explaining a diagnosis ............. 68
3 Reading skills: Reading articles 3 71
4 Case history: William Hudson ... 75

Unit 7
Treatment
1 Medical treatment .................. 76
2 Physiotherapy ....................... 80
3 Surgical treatment .................. 82
4 Reading skills: Using an online database 86

Tapescript ................................... 92
Key ........................................... 105

Appendix 1 Language functions ........................................... 131
Appendix 2 Common medical abbreviations 136
Appendix 3 Who's who in the British hospital system ... 142
Appendix 4 A broad equivalence of positions in the NHS and US hospital systems 143
Appendix 5 Useful addresses .......... 144
Supplementary activities ............... 147
Acknowledgements ...................... 150