

Postgraduate Orthopaedics

Viva Guide to the FRCS (Tr & Orth) Examination

Second edition

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2nd Edition
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Viva Guide to the FRCS (Tr & Orth) Examination

Second edition

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Preface

With the first-edition viva book we were keen to write a viva book to complement our main orthopaedic textbook.

We had a reasonable surplus of material available that we had been unable to fit into the second-edition book. We were keen to go into a more detailed, structured answer to use in the viva situation rather than just going ahead with revision bullet points. We were attempting (but perhaps not realizing at the time) to provide examples of higher-order thinking and judgement for candidates to use in their exam preparation.

We had already published two books previously and so were experienced in the 'know how' of 'how to get a book done'. Like any new book it was certainly more difficult writing from scratch, but there was no great master plan of what we wanted to achieve.

We approached a number of post FRCS (Tr & Orth) registrars who did an excellent job of taking on the task of writing the allocated book chapters. As such, the viva book came together with the minimum of fuss.

The main orthopaedic book had been the first of its kind combining all parts of the FRCS (Tr & Orth) syllabus together in one volume. The viva book was a very different challenge in that there were lots of similar viva-type books already out on the market.

When released, the complexity within some model answers in the viva book took a while to be fully appreciated by our audience. In due course there was a realization that perhaps two or three chapters didn't quite hit our own expected high standards. The book was published very close to similar competing titles that ended up muddying the waters. The book became something of a slow burner, but over time increased in popularity.

The exam format keeps changing, and as time went on the viva book started to age. A decision was needed as to whether to update the book or just let it go out of date. It wasn't a difficult decision as we wanted to improve the quality of the viva book. During the intervening years the standard of FRCS

(Tr & Orth) exam books had significantly improved and we wanted to keep up with the newer titles emerging. We also realized that the vast majority of the book was well written and could be improved even further to do the book its full justice.

The two main areas that we concentrated on were basic science and trauma. Basic science is by and large by far the most difficult subject for candidates to revise and we wanted to significantly raise the bar in this section. Trauma was becoming more subspecialized with the MTC, but candidates still needed a good working knowledge of the material. Diagrams needed to be more professionally drawn.

Although the whole exam is based on the Tr & Orth curriculum, the mechanics of the viva exam are very different to that of the MCQs and clinicals. The viva exam allows for a more formal assessment of communication skills. If you are a gifted, silver-tongued candidate with inherent tactical nous in answering viva questions that's great, but most candidates need some guidance.

A standardized method of approach to answering a viva question needs to be learnt and thoroughly practised to avoid mishaps.

We hope the book realizes its aim of moving the material up a level and that it will guide you better in your exam preparation. Again, like all books of the Postgraduate Orthopaedics book series we make no claim to the originality of the material. We are distilling orthopaedic knowledge from the wider orthopaedic community specifically for exam-related subjects. We have attempted to acknowledge our sources wherever possible and our sincere apologies if we have inadvertently missed anyone out.

We thank Cambridge University Press for all their patience and advice with the project, again remembering that the grass is still not greener elsewhere.

Overall, we are generally happy with the end result. We could have continued writing material for another year and still not be finished, as the Tr & Orth curriculum is vast. Some of the chapters are very

Preface

specialized and candidates may struggle to find similar information on the internet, but this material somehow still gets asked by the ICB. If the basic science or general adult pathology answer to the question is unGoogleable but we have managed to provide for a model answer, then we have mostly succeeded in what we wanted to achieve.

This book was much more difficult to write than the first edition and didn’t come together all that easily. We were surprised by this and went through a few Peroni tests to get there! Will we write a third-edition viva book? Never say never, but probably not!

Paul Banaszkiewicz

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Abbreviations

1,2-ISCRA	1,2-intercompartmental supraretinacular artery	AM	anteromedial
A&E	Accident and Emergency	AMTS	abbreviated mental test score
AAOS	American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons	ANOVA	analysis of variance
ABC	airway, breathing, circulation	AOFAS	American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society
ABG	arterial blood gas	AORI	Anderson Orthopaedic Research Institute
ABI	ankle–brachial index	AP	anteroposterior
ABPB	axillary brachial plexus block	APB	abductor pollicis brevis
ABPI	Ankle–Brachial Pressure Index	APL	abductor pollicis longus
AC	acromioclavicular	APT	all polyethylene tibial
ACDF	anterior cervical decompression and fusion	AR	autosomal recessive
ACI	autologous chondrocyte implantation	ARCO	Association Research Circulation Osseous
ACJ	acromioclavicular joint	ARDS	acute respiratory distress syndrome
ACL	anterior cruciate ligament	ARMD	adverse reactions to metal debris
ACR	American College of Rheumatology	AS	ankylosing spondylitis
AD	autosomal dominant	ASIA	American Spinal Injury Association
ADL	activities of daily living	ASIS	anterior superior iliac spine
AER	apical ectodermal ridge	ATFL	anterior talofibular ligament
AFO	ankle–foot orthosis	ATL	atypical lipoma
AGE	advanced glycation end product	ATLS [®]	Advanced Trauma Life Support [®]
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	ATP	adenosine triphosphate
AIIS	anterior inferior iliac spine	AVN	avascular necrosis
AIN	anterior interosseous nerve	BASS	British Association of Spine Surgeons
AIS	Abbreviated Injury Scale	BDGF	bone-derived growth factor
AIS	adolescent idiopathic scoliosis	bFGF	basic fibroblast growth factor
AJCC	American Joint Committee on Cancer	BHN	bone homeostasis, healing and non-union
AKA	above-knee amputation	BHS	British Hip Society
ALIF	anterior lumbar interbody fusion	BKA	below-knee amputation
ALL	anterior longitudinal ligament	BMD	bone mineral density
ALVAL	aseptic lymphocyte-dominated vasculitis-associated lesions	BMES	bone marrow oedema syndrome
		BMI	body mass index
		BMP	bone morphogenetic protein
		BMU	basic multicellular unit
		BOA	British Orthopaedic Association

List of Abbreviations

BOAST	British Orthopaedic Association Standards for Trauma	CT	computed tomography
BP	blood pressure	CTEV	congenital talipes equinovarus
BPBG	bone–patella–bone graft	CTGF	connective tissue growth factor
BPBT	bone–patella–bone–tendon	CTS	carpal tunnel syndrome
BPI	brachial plexus injury	CVA	cerebrovascular accident
BPN	bisphosphonate	CVT	congenital vertical talus
BPTB	bone–patella–tendon–bone	DAIR	debridement, antibiotics and implant retention
BR	brachioradialis	DASH	Disabilities of the Arm, Shoulder and Hand
BSSH	British Society for Surgery of the Hand	DB	Denis Browne
BW	body weight	DCO	damage control orthopaedics
CAVE	cavus, adductus, varus, equinus	DCP	dynamic compression plate
CC	costoclavicular	DCS	dynamic condylar screw
CCK	constrained condylar knee	DDH	developmental dysplasia of the hip
CCS	central cord syndrome	DEXA	dual energy x-ray absorptiometry
CDH	congenital dislocation of the hip	DGH	district general hospital
CDR	cervical disc replacement	DHS	dynamic hip screw
CEA	carcinoembryonic antigen	DIP	distal interphalangeal
CECI	cauda equina syndrome incomplete	DIPJ	distal interphalangeal joint
CES	cauda equina syndrome	DISH	diffuse idiopathic skeletal hyperostosis
CESR	cauda equine syndrome retention	DMAA	distal metatarsal articular angle
CFL	calcaneofibular ligament	DMARDs	disease modifying anti-rheumatoid drugs
CFU	colony-forming units	DRUJ	distal radioulnar joint
CLPE	cross-lined polyethylene	DVT	deep vein thrombosis
CMAF	compound muscle action potential	ECA	extensor compartment artery
CMC	carpometacarpal	ECM	extracellular matrix
CMN	cephalomedullary nail	ECRB	extensor carpi radialis brevis
CMT	Charcot–Marie–Tooth	ECRL	extensor carpi radialis longus
CNB	central neuraxial block	ECU	extensor carpi ulnaris
CNS	central nervous system	EDB	extensor digitorum brevis
CNS	Congress of Neurological Surgeons	EDC	extensor digitorum communis
CoC	ceramic on ceramic	EDL	extensor digitorum longus
CoP	ceramic on polyethylene	EDM	extensor digiti minimi
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	EF	external fixation
CP	cerebral palsy	EGF	epidermal growth factor
CPSP	central post-stroke pain	EHL	extensor hallucis longus
CR	cruciate retaining	EIP	extensor indicis proprius
CROW	Charcot restraint orthotic walker	EJS	effective joint space
CRP	C-reactive protein	EMA	epiphyseal–metaphyseal angle
CRPS	complex regional pain syndrome	EMG	electromyography
CS	cannulated screw	EMIs	extended matching items
CSF	cerebrospinal fluid	EPB	extensor pollicis brevis
CSM	cervical spondylotic myelopathy	EPI	epicondylitis
		EPL	extensor pollicis longus

List of Abbreviations

EPS	extracellular polymeric substance	HA	hyaluronic acid
ER	external rotation	HA	hydroxyapatite
ERAS	enhanced recovery after surgery	HCLPE	highly cross-linked polyethylene
ERCB	extensor carpi radialis brevis	HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
ERCL	extensor carpi radialis longus	HO	heterotopic ossification
ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate	HSMN	hereditary sensorimotor neuropathies
ETO	extended trochanteric osteotomy	HTO	high tibial osteotomy
EUA	examination under anaesthesia	HU	Hounsfield units
EULAR	European League Against Rheumatism	HVA	hallux valgus angle
EWS	early warning score	HVI	hallux valgus interphalangeus
FAOS	foot and ankle outcome score	IASP	International Association of the Study of Pain
FBC	full blood count	ICB	Intercollegiate Board
FCL	fibular collateral ligament	ICSRA	intercompartmental suprapatellar artery
FCR	flexor carpi radialis	IGF	insulin-like growth factor
FCU	flexor carpi ulnaris	II	image intensifier
FDB	flexor digitorum brevis	IL	interleukin
FDG	fluorodeoxyglucose	IM	intramedullary
FDL	flexor digitorum longus	IMA	intermetatarsal angle
FDP	flexor digitorum profundus	INR	International Normalized Ratio
FDQ	flexor digiti quinti	IP	interphalangeal
FDS	flexor digitorum superficialis	IPJ	interphalangeal joint
FFP	fresh frozen plasma	ISB	interscalene block
FGF	fibroblast growth factor	ITB	iliotibial band
FGF23	fibroblast growth factor 23	ITOH	idiopathic transient osteoporosis of the hip
FGFR3	fibroblast growth factor receptor gene 3	ITU	Intensive Care Unit
FHL	flexor hallucis longus	IV	intravenous
FMDA	femoral metaphyseal–diaphyseal angle	IVC	inferior vena cava
FNB	femoral nerve block	IVDU	intravenous drug user
FPL	flexor pollicis longus	JBJS	<i>Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery</i>
FPPS	farnesyl pyrophosphate synthase	JCIE	Joint Committee on Intercollegiate Examinations
FTR	femoral tibial ratio	JLCA	joint line convergence angle
GA	general anaesthetic	JRF	joint reaction force
GAGs	glycosaminoglycans	KAFO	knee–ankle–foot orthosis
GCS	Glasgow Coma Score	LA	local anaesthetic
GCT	giant cell tumour	LAST	local anaesthetic systemic toxicity
GHL	glenohumeral ligaments	LAT	lateral
GI	gastrointestinal	LBP	low back pain
GIRFT	get it right first time	LC	lateral compression
GMC	General Medical Council	LCDCP	low-contact dynamic compression plates
GRAFO	ground reaction ankle foot orthosis	LCL	lateral collateral ligament
GRF	ground reaction forces	LCP	low compression plates
GT	greater trochanter	LCPD	Legg Calves Perthes disease

List of Abbreviations

LDFA	lateral distal femoral angle	NF	neurofibromatosis
LFA	low-friction arthroplasty	NF-1	neurofibromatosis type 1
LFTs	liver function tests	NF-2	neurofibromatosis type 2
LHB	long head of biceps	NGAL	neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin
LLD	limb length discrepancy	NICE	National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
LMWH	low molecular weight heparin	NIDDM	non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
LP	lumbar puncture	NJR	National Joint Registry
LRTI	ligament reconstruction tendon interposition	NMJ	neuromuscular junction
LUCL	lateral ulnar collateral ligament	NOGG	National Osteoporosis Guideline Group
MA	metatarsus adductus	NPV	negative predictive value
MAD	mechanical axis deviation	NSAIDs	non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
MCFA	medial circumflex femoral artery	OA	osteoarthritis
MCL	medial collateral ligament	OATS	osteochondral autograft transfer system
MCP	metacarpophalangeal	OCD	osteochondritis dissecans
MCQs	multiple choice questions	OCL	osteochondral lesions
MCSF	macrophage-colony stimulating factor	ODEP	Orthopaedic Data Evaluation Panel
MDA	metaphyseal–diaphyseal angle	OHS	Oxford hip score
MDP	methylene diphosphonate	OI	osteogenesis imperfecta
MDT	multidisciplinary team	OKS	Oxford knee score
MED	multiple epiphyseal dysplasia	OLT	osteochondral lesion of the talus
MFC	medial femoral condyle	ON	osteonecrosis
MHRA	Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency	OPG	osteoprotegerin
MIPO	minimally invasive plate osteosynthesis	OPLL	ossification of the posterior longitudinal ligament
MMP	metalloproteinase	ORIF	open reduction internal fixation
MoM	metal on metal	OSCAR	Orthosonics System for Cemented Arthroplasty Revision
MoP	metal on polyethylene	OSCE	objective structured clinical examination
MPC	2-methacryloyloxyethyl phosphorylcholine	PA	posterior anterior
MPFL	medial patellofemoral ligament	PACS	picture archive and communication system
MPTA	medial proximal tibial angle	PAO	periacetabular osteotomy
MR	magnetic resonance	PCA	patient-controlled analgesia
MRC	Medical Research Council	PCL	posterior cruciate ligament
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging	PCT	procalcitonin
MS	multiple sclerosis	PD	proximodistal
MSC	mesenchymal stem cell	PDFA	posterior distal femoral angle
MSCC	malignant spinal cord compression	PDGF	platelet-derived growth factor
MSK	musculoskeletal	PDNP	peripheral diabetic neuropathic pain
MSTS	Musculoskeletal Tumor Society	PE	polyethylene
MSU	monosodium urate	PE	pulmonary embolism
MTC	Major Trauma Centre		
MTP	metatarsophalangeal		
MTPJ	metatarsophalangeal joint		
MUA	manipulation under anaesthetic		
NAI	non-accidental injury		
NCS	nerve conduction studies		

List of Abbreviations

PET	positron emission tomography	RDS	respiratory distress syndrome
PF	patellofemoral	RF	rheumatoid factor
PFJ	patellofemoral joint	RHK	rotating-hinge knee
PFO	proximal femoral osteotomy	RLN	recurrent laryngeal nerve
PFR	proximal femoral replacement	ROM	range of movement
PG	proteoglycan	ROTEM	rotational thromboelastometry
PGE2	prostaglandin E2	RR	relative risk
PHN	postherpetic neuralgia	RTA	road traffic accident
PI	pelvic incidence	SACH	solid ankle cushioned heel
PIN	posterior interosseous nerve	SAR	structures at risk
PIP	proximal interphalangeal	SBA	single best answer
PIPJ	proximal interphalangeal joint	SCA	sickle cell anaemia
PIS	pinning-in-situ	SCB	supraclavicular block
PJI	periprosthetic joint infection	SCD	sickle cell disease
PL	posterolateral	SCFE	slipped capital femoral epiphysis
PLC	posterior ligamentous complex	SCH	supracondylar fracture of the humerus
PLIF	posterior interbody lumbar fusion	SCI	spinal cord injury
PLRI	posterolateral rotatory instability	SCM	sternocleidomastoid
PMMA	polymethylmethacrylate	SD	standard deviation
PMN	polymorphonuclear neutrophil	SER	supination external rotation
PPF	periprosthetic fracture	SERMs	selective oestrogen receptor modulators
PPP	preperitoneal pelvic packing	SI	sacroiliac
PPTA	posterior proximal tibial angle	SIRS	systemic inflammatory response syndrome
PPV	positive predictive value	SLAC	scapholunate advanced collapsed
PQ	pronator quadratus	SLAP	superior labrum from anterior to posterior
PR	per rectum	SLE	systemic lupus erythematosus
PROM	patient-reported outcome measure	SLR	straight leg raise
PROSTALAC	prosthesis of antibiotic-loaded acrylic cement	SMA	second moment area
PRP	platelet-rich plasma	SMAC	Standing Medical Advisory Committee
PS	posterior stabilized	SNAC	scaphoid non-union advanced collapsed
PSA	posterior sloping angle	SNAP	sensory nerve action potential
PSA	prostate-specific antigen	SNB	sciatic nerve block
PSF	posterior spinal fusion	SOL	space occupying lesion
PSIS	posterior superior iliac spine	SPECT	single photon emission computed tomography
PT	pronator teres	SPN	superficial peroneal nerve
PTFL	posterior talofibular ligament	SR	sarcoplasmic reticulum
PTH	parathyroid hormone	SRN	superficial radial nerve
QAP	questions, answers and prompting	SRS	Scoliosis Research Society
RA	rheumatoid arthritis	ST3	surgical trainee year 3
RANK	receptor activator of nuclear factor $\kappa\beta$	STACIS	Surgical Timing in Acute Spinal Cord Injury Study
RANKL	receptor activator of nuclear factor $\kappa\beta$ ligand		
RC	radial collateral		
RCT	randomized controlled trial		

List of Abbreviations

STAR	Scandinavian total ankle replacement	TSF	thread shape factor
STC	Specialist Training Committee	TT	tibial tubercle
STIR	short-tau inversion recovery	TTO	tibial tubercle osteotomy
STT	scaphotrapeziotrapezoid	TT-TG	tibial tuberosity–trochlea groove
SUFE	slipped upper femoral epiphysis	U&E	urea and electrolytes
TA	tibialis anterior	UA	uric acid
TB	tuberculosis	UCL	ulnar collateral ligament
TCA	tricyclic antidepressant	UCS	Unified Classification System
TEG	thromboelastography	UHMWPE	ultra-high-molecular-weight polyethylene
TENS	transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation	UKR	unicompartmental knee replacement
TER	total elbow replacement	UMN	upper motor neuron
TFA	tibiofemoral angle	URTI	upper respiratory tract infection
TFCC	triangular fibrocartilage complex	US	ultrasound
TFL	tensor fascia lata	UTI	urinary tract infection
TGF	transforming growth factor	UTS	ultimate tensile strength
TGF-β	transforming growth factor-beta	UV	ultraviolet
THA	total hip arthroplasty	VACTERL	vertebral, anorectal, cardiac, tracheal, oesophageal, renal and limb
THR	total hip replacement	VAS	visual analogue scale
TIMPs	tissue inhibitory metalloproteinases	VEGF	vascular endothelial growth factor
TIVA	total intravenous anaesthesia	VFG	vascularized fibular graft
TKA	total knee arthroplasty	VTE	venous thromboembolism
TKR	total knee replacement	WBC	white blood cell
TLICS	Thoracolumbar Injury Classification and Severity	WCC	white blood cell count
TLIF	transforaminal lumbar interbody fusion	WDL	well-differentiated lipoma
TLSO	thoracolumbar spinal orthosis	WHO	World Health Organization
TM	trabecular metal	WOMAC	Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Arthritis Index
TMT	tarsometatarsal	ZPA	zone of polarizing activity
TNF	tumour necrosis factor		
TRAP	tartrate resistance acid phosphatase		

Interactive website

The website to accompany the book:

www.postgraduateorthopaedics.com

This website accompanies the textbook series: Postgraduate Orthopaedics. It includes:

- Postgraduate Orthopaedics: The Candidate's Guide to the FRCS (Tr & Orth) Examination, third edition
- Postgraduate Orthopaedics: Viva Guide for the FRCS (Tr & Orth) Examination, second edition
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