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Frontmatter
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Part 3 MRCOG
Your Essential Revision Guide

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Contents

	<i>Foreword</i>	<i>page ix</i>
1	The Part 3 Clinical Assessment in the Context of the MRCOG Examination	1
	The Format of the MRCOG Examination	1
	The Knowledge and Skills Being Assessed in the Part 3 MRCOG Examination	2
	Practical Arrangements	3
	Simulated Patient or Colleague Tasks	4
	Structured Discussion Tasks	5
	Linked Tasks	6
	Examiners	6
	The Examination Blueprint	7
	Standard Setting	8
	Quality Assurance	9
	Why Do Candidates Fail the Part 3 Exam?	9
	Additional Resources	9
2	Core Clinical Skills	10
	Patient Safety	11
	Communication with Patients and Families	14
	Communication with Colleagues	18
	Information Gathering	22
	Applied Clinical Knowledge	26
	Conclusions	28
	Additional Resources	29
3	The Modules of the Curriculum Assessed in the Part 3 Exam	30
	Introduction	30
	How to Approach this Chapter	31
	Module 1: Teaching	33
	Module 2: Core Surgical Skills	37
	Module 3: Post-Operative Care	40
	Module 4: Antenatal Care	45

vi	Contents	
	Module 5: Maternal Medicine	49
	Module 6: Management of Labour	54
	Module 7: Management of Delivery	59
	Module 8: Postpartum Problems (The Puerperium)	62
	Module 9: Gynaecological Problems	67
	Module 10: Subfertility	72
	Module 11: Sexual and Reproductive Health	77
	Module 12: Early Pregnancy Care	82
	Module 13: Gynaecological Oncology	87
	Module 14: Urogynaecology and Pelvic Floor Problems	92
	Summary	96
4	Tips for Candidates	97
	Don't Panic!	97
	Read the Question	98
	Body Language	99
	Listen to the Actor's Questions	99
	If There are Props, Use Them	99
	Drawings	100
	Don't Point to Yourself	100
	Euphemisms	100
	Resilience	101
	Practice: Find an Exam Buddy	102
	Courses	102
	Look After Yourself	102
5	Practice Tasks with Videos	104
	Task 1: Meconium Stained Liquor (Simulated Patient Task)	104
	Video 1	106
	Video 2	111
	Task 2: Tutorial on Electrosurgery (Structured Discussion Task)	119
	Video 1	121
	Video 2	124
	Task 3: Teaching Ventouse Delivery (Simulated Colleague Task)	128
	Video 1	129
	Video 2	132
	Task 4: Retained Swab (Simulated Patient task)	138
	Video 1	139
	Video 2	145
6	Revision Resources	152
	Breadth Versus Depth	152
	Recent Publications	153

	Contents	vii
Reviews, Clinical Governance and Ethics Resources		153
Other Resources		154
Research Papers		154
Textbooks		154
Conclusions		155
<i>Appendix 1 Part 3 MRCOG Clinical Skills Assessment Template</i>		156
<i>Index</i>		172

Foreword

Membership of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) is recognised worldwide as certifying a high standard of clinical skills, and carries significant prestige. The MRCOG examination is an exacting test of those clinical skills comprising three parts. In each part of the exam applied clinical knowledge is assessed and a sound understanding of the evidence base underpinning the practice of obstetrics and gynaecology is essential. Clinical practice involves face-to-face contact with patients, and therefore the ability to demonstrate knowledge and skills in real-life encounters is fundamental to working as an obstetrician and gynaecologist.

Practising obstetrics and gynaecology to a high standard is not just about knowledge, however. Our mothers and patients can be well informed and often wish to be involved in making decisions about the care they and their babies receive, so the good obstetrician and gynaecologist will also have good communication skills, while keeping the safety of patients at the forefront of their minds.

As experienced teachers and examiners, we have seen able doctors fail the clinical assessment, not because of a lack of knowledge, but due to poor exam technique, failure to understand the skills being tested and by making simple errors. We hope that this book and its linked video resources will give you the chance to practise the skills needed to demonstrate in the exam setting the skills that you routinely use every day. We also hope that the detailed discussions of the marking schemes will show you how to pass each task in the Part 3 exam.

We couldn't have prepared this revision resource without the help of a large team. We'd like to thank Chris Chivers, Head of Examinations, who has provided editorial input and detailed advice about the style and structure of the book. Karen Penfold has contributed to the typing of large sections of the book in addition to helping with many other RCOG activities over a long period of time.

We'd like to thank the team who helped create the video resources. Christine Tang, Part 3 MRCOG Administrator, and Helen Munn, eLearning Manager, organised and managed the filming of the video resources with precision and patience. Colin Duncan, Paul Mills and Lesley Briggs brought their experience of being involved as examiners to the simulated tasks and in providing detailed examiner's comments for the book, which give an important insight as to how examiners make their judgements. We are very grateful to the team of junior doctors who were prepared to simulate both good and poor performance in the scenarios: Alex Tan, Vishalli Ghai, Kim Nash, Catherine Langley, Kathryn Tompsett, Sadia Hussain, James McLaren and Maryam Modarres.

Finally, we'd like to thank Andrew Starks at the RCOG for his patience and skills in recording and editing the videos.

We do hope that you find this resource valuable and that it helps you to show the examiners all your skills on the day of the exam in order to pass the membership examination. Good luck.

Lisa Joels and Edmund Neale