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PART 1**

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QNOTES FOR THE MRCP PART 1

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QNotes MRCP Part 1

QNotes MRCP Part 1 has been designed as a companion volume to the Royal College of Physicians MRCP (UK) Part 1 Papers 1997/98 CD-ROM.

QNotes is based on the QBase Interactive MCQ Examinations program and retains all of its functions. Before installing QNotes you must install the QBase MRCP Part 1 Papers 1997/98 CD-ROM onto your computer. Q Notes MRCP Part 1 should only be used with the QBase MRCP Part 1 Papers CD in the CD-ROM drive of your computer. QNotes runs from your hard disk, reads the exam papers and questions from the Part 1 Papers CD-ROM and attaches comprehensive notes to each question.

Installation Instructions

Before using QNotes MRCP Part 1 you must install the Royal College Physicians MRCP Part 1 Papers 1997/98 onto your computer

Put the MRCP Part 1 Papers CD in the CD drive of your computer and double click the setup.exe to run the QBase installer.

Remove the MRCP Part 1 Papers CD and insert the QNotes MRCP Part 1 CD into the CD drive.

View the contents of the QNotes CD-ROM.

Copy the folder labelled QNotes MRCP Part 1 onto your desktop (*do not change the names of any of the files or folders within this folder*).

Remove the QNotes CD from the CD drive and replace it with the MRCP Part 1 Papers CD.

You can now run QNotes from your hard disk by double clicking the QNotes program file.

Q Notes will enhance the value of the questions contained on the Part 1 Papers CD by seamlessly attaching comprehensive notes to them.

See **Readme.txt** in the QNotes MRCP Part 1 folder for further information.

The Royal College of Physicians is removing negative marking from May 2002, but the format of the MRCP Part 1 examination will remain the same. A non-negatively marked version of QNotes will be available shortly on www.greenwich-medical.co.uk/qnotes.

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Editor's Note

Before you use QNotes, please follow the installation instructions carefully.

QNotes has been designed to add comprehensive and updateable notes to QBase publications. QNotes has been developed as an extension to the QBase Interactive MCQ Examinations program designed to facilitate revision for postgraduate medical exams. QBase was used by the Royal College of Physicians to release its Part 1 Papers in 2000 on CD-ROM.

QNotes MRCP Part 1 has been designed specifically as a companion volume to the Royal College of Physicians MRCP Part 1 Papers Book/CD. QNotes MRCP Part 1 seamlessly integrates comprehensive notes and explanations with the questions contained on the MRCP Part 1 Papers CD. In order for QNotes MRCP Part 1 to work you must have the Royal College of Physicians MRCP Part 1 Papers 97/98 CD in your CD drive.

The QNotes program will run from your hard disk. QNotes contains all the same functions as QBase. Previous users of QBase will be familiar with the ability to choose predefined exams, set their own mock exams or select questions from a choice of subjects. QNotes will integrate the appropriate notes and explanations with all the questions on the MRCP Part 1 Papers CD and enhance your learning experience. If you have not used QBase before please refer to the Helpfile contained on either the Part 1 Papers or the QNotes CD or press the appropriate button on the quick start menu.

The QNotes/QBase series of books and CDs have been designed to facilitate your revision and learning experience. Unlike traditional book publications the Interactive MCQ Program gives candidates the option and flexibility to make up their own exam papers for revision or assessment. Questions can be selected from the entire pool based on the user's choice of subject and format rather than the fixed order of traditional book publishing. Although the exam format and marking system continue to evolve, the core subject matter under examination remains much the same. QBase and QNotes will continue to evolve in parallel with changes in the format and marking systems of the different Royal Colleges.

We continue to value the views of candidates, past and present on how we can improve the program. If you have any suggestions, comments or technical problems with QBase please contact us via email at gm@greenwich-medical.co.uk.

We hope that candidates will find that QNotes will facilitate their revision for the MRCP Part 1 examination.

Good Luck!

Edward Hammond and Ray McCrudden
February 2002

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank my co-authors, John, Callum and Lynn who each contributed an equal 25% share to the workload. This book has taken a slightly longer time to write than anticipated, but for good reason. By the time this is published three out of the four of us will have embarked on the journey taken by all who start a young family: I for one can identify now with those tired parents who come to work looking exhausted and complaining of little sleep. And I for one wouldn't have it any other way. I want to thank my co-authors for their work during times when they would rather have caught up with rest in a horizontal frame of mind or spent some well-earned time with their partner and children.

Thanks also to Ed Hammond for dragging another book out of me and also to Gavin Smith and Gill Clark at Greenwich Medical who were very patient with the multiple delays and deadlines revisited etc. A special thanks to John Iredale, David Fine and Michael Arthur in Southampton and David Williams and Miriam Levy in Sydney for inspiration and support.

A big thank you to Herman and Anne at 'The Mill' for putting up with me whilst writing during an Autumn sojourn in Stuttgart, and to my parents Raymond and Audrey for their help despite the long distance from the UK who have supported us during our work here in Sydney and in the writing of this book. Finally the biggest Thank You goes to my wife Ute and son Nicolas who put up with multiple weekends writing: the ultimatum was to finish before the 'next one' – I think we have succeeded ... just.

RM
Sydney
March 2002

Preface

This book has been written with the sole aim of annotating the questions, published by Greenwich Medical Media, of the Royal College of Physicians (UK) exam, Membership of the Royal College Part I (MRCP I), for the years 1997 and 1998. In addition to detailed notes on any given topic, each question is referenced, directing the reader to up to date reviews or papers on the subject should they wish to research the area further. In addition to the book a CD-ROM is provided which, once installed to the hard drive on your computer, complements the CD-ROM provided in the College Questions published by Greenwich Medical Media last year (you will still need the original College CD-ROM containing the college questions).

Recently the exam format of the MRCP I has altered and whilst the current QBase program still has the facility to help candidates examine and improve their technique in guessing, by far the greatest advantage of the program is to allow the candidate to do an exam paper 'on screen', choose the format of the exam, store the paper for later use, and finally to identify from the answers areas of weakness that require attention.

Medicine and the Internet

One of the themes put forward in QBase Medicine II was the use of computers in medicine. In this preface the theme is developed further with the use of the internet as a resource for studying for the exam. There is no doubt that doing lots of multiple choice questions with focussed answers is the best preparation for the exam however very occasionally further information is required. In addition to textbooks and journals in the library the internet, if used wisely, can be a valuable resource. For those who are complete novices to the subject we have put together a document which serves as an introduction to gaining access to a variety of medical web sites on the internet (Appendix: Membership and the web). This text is also provided on the CD-ROM as a Microsoft Word file and also as a rich text file for those with other word processing applications: if it is installed onto a computer equipped for the internet, then by simply clicking on the 'hyperlink' text you will be taken to the web site in question.

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Request for comments

Please give us feedback on the book whether it be typos, errors, misleading statements or additions to existing lists. This will help us in future editions.

You can send any 'bug reports' or comments to:

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(Annotations to the MRCP Part I College Questions published 1997, 1998)
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email to:
gm@greenwich-medical.co.uk

We hope that the time and effort taken in putting these answers together will impart a clarity and ease of understanding to the text, and help towards the final goal. Good luck!

Ray McCrudden
Callum Pearce
John Gordon
Lynn Thomas

March 2002