

### Get Ahead! Surgery: 100 EMQs for Finals

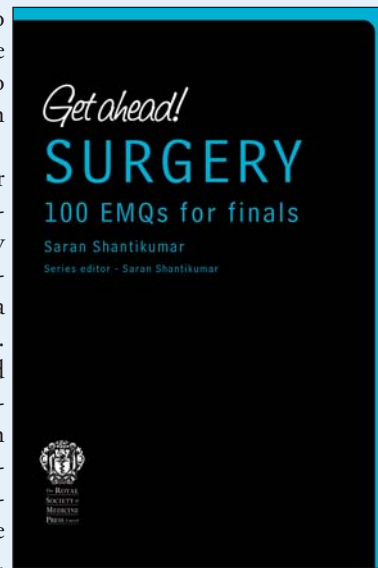
Saran Shantikumar  
RSM Press 2008  
Price £14.95. Pp 244  
ISBN 978 1 85315 746 2

Like it or not, extended matching questions (EMQs) are becoming increasingly popular as a method of assessment in medical school examinations. This book is an excellent revision aid for medical students sitting for Finals as it essentially covers the entire surgical syllabus. The format of the questions closely resemble to those found in the University Medical Assessment Partnership bank of questions and as such serve as a useful preparation for exams.

The book is divided into six practice papers that take about 2 hours each to complete. Questions within the papers

themselves are conveniently divided into main themes, for example 'neck lumps' or 'management of testicular conditions', allowing the user to either sit for an entire paper or go directly to specific topics they wish to revise.

In addition, other areas of surgery are covered such as airway management and consent, giving the book a wider perspective. Answers are provided together with explanations that are well worth a read as they are a valuable revision tool themselves. This is one of the book's major strengths.



Although directed mainly to students, this book is also a suitable text for MRCS candidates as there are a proportion of harder stems requiring more detailed knowledge.

This book is written by a junior doctor who would have recently sat finals and as such is extremely relevant to undergraduates facing these exams. I would thoroughly recommend this book to all medical students as a comprehensive and reliable revision aid.

*Saravanan Royan,  
Queens Medical Centre,  
Nottingham*

### Oxford Specialist Handbooks in Cardiology: Nuclear Cardiology

Nikant Sabharwal, Chee Yee-Loong,  
Andrew Kelion  
Oxford University Press 2008

Price £34.95. Pp 231  
ISBN 978 0 19 920644 5

Nuclear cardiology, a field over 3 decades old, is supported in clinical practice by an extensive body of evidence. Within this field, myocardial perfusion scintigraphy has become one of the most widely requested investigations in cardiology. However, the complexities of radiation physics can lend an air of impenetrability to those wishing to further understand the specialty. With an increasing array of techniques available to image the heart, a solid understanding of the appropriateness, pitfalls and clinical value of nuclear cardiology techniques is essential.

Here, then, is a well-written, thorough but concise account of the area that follows the popular Oxford Handbook format. Each chapter is broken down into single-page subtopics accompanied by simple illustrations. Opening with synopses on radiation physics, camera technology and image acquisition, including single photon emission tomography and radionuclide ventriculography, the authors succeed in making potentially hard concepts easy to follow.

Thereafter, myocardial perfusion scintigraphy is dealt with in more detail, with

attention on stress techniques, radiopharmaceuticals, image interpretation and clinical value. These chapters, fully referenced and guideline-driven, are likely to be the most widely read and of greatest benefit to clinical practice. The final chapters introduce iodine-123 labelled tracers and positron emission tomography without shifting attention away from myocardial perfusion scintigraphy, which is clearly the main focus of the book.

Well-balanced and excelling in both presentation and accessibility, this handbook is highly recommended to all those involved in the delivery of a nuclear cardiology service and to those referrers for nuclear cardiology who want to make the best of the information that the techniques provide.

*James Stirrup, Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Trust and National Heart and Lung Institute, London*

### Management for Psychiatrists (3rd edn)

Edited by Dinesh Bhugra, Stuart Bell,  
Alistair Burns  
Royal College of Psychiatrists 2007

Price £30.00. Pp 438  
ISBN 978 1 904671 49 7

The new edition of this excellent book is ideal for both newly appointed consultants (junior doctors, before their consultant interview), and also consultants who have

been working in the system for some time as a clear and concise summary of current thinking.

It has an accessibility which allows the reader to cover broad areas of psychiatric management in one sitting. One can easily read the book in its entirety without becoming bored or bogged down with detail.

The wisdom and clarity of the authors, who have obviously worked constructively within the ever-changing managerial milieu of the NHS, helps the reader to understand the often necessary changes which have taken place. This will undoubtedly benefit those who will be challenged by further developments of managerial thinking in the future.

The authors on the whole affect this in a style which does not underestimate the audience and with an attitude which suggests we are all in this together. Modern psychiatrists need to embrace the ongoing changes in the service for the benefit of the service user.

The positive and enabling tone of the prose is encouraging and educative and avoids any hint of cynicism.

Overall, this book is a must read for all British psychiatrists and for those who wish to understand the mechanics which underpin the service delivery of psychiatry in the NHS today.

*Richard Evans, Homerton Hospital,  
London*