surgical approach and postoperative care and rehabilitation clearly described. It is up to the usual high standards of AO publishing. Any user who undertakes the demanding ESIN technique should have access to it via the operating theatre or library, although of course surgeons undertaking this technique should be trained properly and merely use it for reference.

In summary, this is likely to become the standard textbook for ESIN nailing technique, which has recently gained popularity in the paediatric population. It is a demanding technique with many potential complications and this textbook should help surgeons to avoid most of these.

Birmingham PLAB Course Teaching DVD For PLAB 2 OSCE

**Series 1: Surgical and Orthopaedic
Examinations**

Series 2: Medical Examinations

Series 3: Resuscitation and Manikins

EXTENT P/H	DVD
PRICE/ISBN	£24.95 each, 185315637X, 1853156426, 1853156477
PUBLISHER	RSM (London), 2005
REVIEWER	Marc Patterson
STAR RATING	****

The Birmingham PLAB course has produced three DVDs to help prepare international graduates sitting the part II examination (OSCE). The first covers surgery and orthopaedics, the second medicine and the third resuscitation and manikins.

Each DVD is introduced by a faculty member of the Birmingham course who demonstrates one way of undertaking each OSCE station in 5 min. There is no detailed description of the structure of the examination but the important aspects of its style are covered. The introduction to each DVD repeats the recommended approach, emphasising greeting, rapport, consent, privacy and chaperones. Politeness, explanation to the patients, avoidance of discomfort and the importance of giving a running commentary to the examiners are all included.

The surgical section (series I) covers examination of the abdomen, neck, peripheral vascular system, diabetic foot, hip, knee, spine, shoulder and hand. The medical section (series II) emphasises effective communication skills, clear instruction and professional presentation. Demonstration of appropriate clinical signs in a 5-min OSCE is also explained. Systems covered include cardiovascular, respiratory, neurological and fundoscopy. Series III covers resuscitation and manikins such as blood sampling, catheterisation, breast and rectal examination.

The DVDs are designed for those candidates sitting Part II PLAB. It is assumed that they are familiar with the structure of the examination as a whole and specifically cover only the OSCE side of it. The style is very definitely 'this is the way to do it', but the faculty members do suggest that the candidate's personal style can be added to present a way of approaching the examination with which the candidate is comfortable while also being looked on favourably by the examiners.

The standard of presentation is excellent and the technical quality of the discs, first class. International graduates will definitely find them a very helpful adjunct to their preparation for PLAB. A full knowledge of the structure of the examination, careful revision of the medical syllabus and study of the necessary style as demonstrated in these DVDs should give the candidate as good a chance of success as possible. If all examination candidates examined patients in the professional manner shown by the faculty members, a few more national graduates might also pass their own local examinations!

Oxford Handbook of Clinical Dentistry, 4th edn

DAVID A MITCHELL, LAURA MITCHELL, PAUL BRUNTON

EXTENT P/H	824 p, Paperback
PRICE/ISBN	£22.95, 9780198529200
PUBLISHER	Oxford University Press (Oxford), 2005
REVIEWER	John Lowry
STAR RATING	*****

In 1991, the *Oxford Handbook of Clinical Dentistry* first saw the light of day as the authors' 'baby'. In subsequent editions, it has progressively matured through life as a toddler and robust child. Now 15 years later as a teenager, it is exploring new avenues including web-based learning. Initially, it was developed as the logical extension for dentistry of the ubiquitous *Oxford Handbook of Clinical Medicine* (often dubbed 'the cheese and onion' because of its characteristic green and yellow cover) or sister-*Oxford Handbook of Clinical Specialties*, which was to be aimed mainly at the dental student and early postgraduate. Clearly, over the years, its value for a far wider audience has become well recognised.

The traditional Oxford handbook format of 180 x 98 mm pages between the characteristic flexible and robust plastic covers has been faithfully reproduced once again with an attractive pink, yellow and blue colour scheme. This new edition, however, has been extended to 18 chapters. There has been a major restructuring with new material including caries risk assessment, new preparation techniques and the