registrar in plastic surgery in Australia, he recently obtained the MRCS and appreciates that the anatomy examination is often the most feared component of the *viva voce* examination for this qualification.

It focuses purely on the anatomy component of the oral examination by covering the head and neck, upper and lower limbs, thorax, abdomen and pelvis and the back. It contains specimen questions based on actual anatomy orals, using colour photographs of dissections, diagrams, X-rays and scans and is supplemented with model answers and explanations to aid the learning process. It also provides some useful advice on how to behave during the oral examination. This book will instil more confidence in the candidate who is preparing to tackle the anatomy oral.

This superb book is highly recommended to those candidates preparing for the intercollegiate MRCS diploma. It skillfully fulfils the need for a book dedicated to the anatomy oral.

Get Through Accident and Emergency Medicine: MCQs

AMY HERLIHY

EXTENT P/H	140 pages, Paperback
PRICE/ISBN	£22.50, 1853156949
PUBLISHER	RSM Press (London), 2006
REVIEWER	Chris Brookes
STAR RATING	****

Thorough and relevant examination preparation is an essential prerequisite to a successful professional career. With the introduction of Modernising Medical Careers, the ability of the postgraduate doctor to navigate the appropriate examination pathway successfully at the first hurdle is even more important.

Get Through Accident and Emergency Medicine: MCQs will provide an excellent introduction to the examination technique necessary to pass the multiple choice component of the emergency medicine examination. The organisation of the book into several separate, but appropriate, sections (trauma, orthopaedics, medical, *etc.*) ensures that the student gains maximum benefit from the series of questions. The answers together with associated short commentaries are listed after each particular discipline's questions.

As an established emergency consultant involved in preparing colleagues for examinations, I found the questions to be unambiguous and relevant. They were sufficiently challenging to improve the candidate's knowledge base but pitched at a level commensurate with the standard expected in the multiple choice component of the examina-

tions. This was indeed a view shared by a number of junior colleagues who also gave their opinion on the publication and its quality and usefulness, also demonstrated by the queue of prospective emergency clinicians who wanted to borrow the book to assist in their own preparation.

I was also impressed that the book provided some pertinent revision tips and sensible advice with respect to multiple choice questions, the examination formats and techniques with respect to emergency medicine. My only recommendation is that perhaps a future edition may incorporate slightly longer commentaries to support the answers. However, this does not detract from my opinion that this book will be invaluable to any candidate preparing for postgraduate emergency examinations and should be an integral part of any colleague's preparation for these.

Basic Science for the MRCS

ANDREW RAFTERY, MICHAEL DELBRIDGE

EXTENT P/H	440 pages, Paperback
PRICE/ISBN	£26.99, 0443101094
PUBLISHER	Churchill Livingstone (London), 2006
REVIEWER	Roger Stevens
STAR RATING	***

Basic Science for the MRCS is aimed at candidates preparing for the intercollegiate MRCS examination and is a concise revision guide focusing on the core basic sciences of anatomy, physiology and pathology. Its content has been distilled from the best-selling parent volume, *Applied Basic Science for Basic Surgical Training*, also written by the senior author. Although it focuses on the basic sciences, it does emphasise their clinical relevance where necessary.

This conveniently sized and reasonably priced book is divided into three sections covering each of the three core basic sciences. It presents the fundamental knowledge of the basic sciences for the written and *viva voce* sections of the MRCS examination in a thorough and succinct manner in bullet-point format. It is well illustrated with the accompanying figures clearly drawn in black-and-white halftones. These features allow rapid revision of the essential knowledge prior to the examination. This book is a respectable improvement on Raftery's *Applied Basic Science for Basic Surgical Training*.

Overall, it succeeds in fulfilling its objective as a rapid revision of the basic sciences for the intercollegiate MRCS and is highly recommended to candidates for this diploma. It also provides an excellent review of the basic sciences for those in higher surgical training.