THE MRCGP EXAMINATION: A GUIDE FOR CANDIDATES AND TEACHERS
Richard Moore
Royal College of General Practitioners, London (1994) 183 pages. Price £16.50 (RCGP members £15.00)

This book is about the MRCGP examination, but it is more than that. It is about general practice as a profession: its history, its aspirations and its success. Young doctors reading this book will find all they need to know about the examination as it is at present, but they will also have learned about the Royal College of General Practitioners— the motivation of the founding members and the continuing search for quality by the present members. These potential candidates will not only learn how to pass the examination, even more importantly they will learn why they should sit it.

The author is an experienced examiner who possesses wit, wisdom, vision and the ability to communicate with his audience. Reading this book is not a chore but a pleasure and potential candidates and their trainers will be considerably wiser by the finish. The practical advice on preparation and performance is well done, helpful and focused. The examination is revealed openly and honestly; doctors having read this book cannot say that they did not know what to expect or how to prepare. The book is also absolutely up to date with information on the latest developments in the MRCGP examination and in general practitioner assessment in general. In the final analysis it is the setting of the examination in the context of the history and future of general practice that makes this book special.

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HOW TO WRITE A PAPER
George M Hall (ed)

Potential authors of primary care papers should not be deterred from reading this book by the fact that it is written largely by hospital specialists, many of whom are anaesthetists, or by its stated aim of giving simple, didactic advice on how to write a clinical paper. The biomedicine is leavened by contributions from the editor of the British Medical Journal and his publishing staff, and, in fewer than 100 pages, the authors succeed in summarizing a great deal of advice and instruction which experienced writers, as well as novices, should find interesting and stimulating.

THE TRAINEE’S COMPANION TO GENERAL PRACTICE
Joe Rosenthal, Jeanette Naish and Margaret Lloyd (eds)

This book has seven main chapters, three from the three editors lecturing in general practice in London medical schools and additional contributions from Stephen Brant, a general practitioner trainer, Chris Donovan and Richard Savage course organizers, and from John Horder, past president of the Royal