

Changes to the MRCPsych Examinations in 1987/1988

The proposed changes to the MRCPsych Examinations as outlined in the Report of the Review Working Party to the Court of Electors, copies of which are available from the Examinations Department, will start to come into effect from June 1987.

The examinations under the **present Regulations** are called:

The Preliminary Test and the Membership Examination

The examinations under the **new Regulations** will be called:

MRCPsych Part I and MRCPsych Part II.

(1) The Preliminary Test and the MRCPsych Part I

The Preliminary Test will be replaced by the MRCPsych Part I Examination from October 1987.

The following Interim Regulations will apply to candidates for the above examinations:

- (a) Candidates who have passed the Preliminary Test will be allowed to take the Membership Examination for a period of up to five years. If after five years they have not passed the Membership Examination but would remain eligible for further attempts at the Preliminary Test and the Membership Examination, they will come under the new MRCPsych Regulations and conditions as described in Section C (i), (ii) and (iii), and take the MRCPsych Part I and, if successful, proceed to the MRCPsych Part II.
- (b) Candidates who have failed the Preliminary Test on five occasions by February 1987 will not be permitted to enter the MRCPsych Part I or Part II.
- (c) Candidates who have started their attempts at the Preliminary Test but who have not passed by February 1987 (the last occasion on which the Preliminary Test

will be held), will be required to take the MRCPsych Part I, and if successful, proceed to the MRCPsych Part II. They will be allowed a minimum of two attempts and a maximum of four attempts at the MRCPsych Part I depending upon the duration of their previous approved training in psychiatry as follows:

- (i) Candidates with more than three years' full-time approved psychiatric training by October 1987: two attempts within 18 months of further full-time approved psychiatric training.
- (ii) Candidates with more than one year but less than three years full-time approved psychiatric training by October 1987: three attempts within two years of further full-time approved psychiatric training.
- (iii) Candidates with less than one year's full-time approved psychiatric training by October 1987: the new Regulations will apply: four attempts within three years of full-time approved psychiatric training.

(2) The Membership Examination and the MRCPsych Part II

The Membership Examination will run concurrently with the MRCPsych Part II from April 1988 to April 1992.

Candidates who pass the Preliminary Test before October 1987 will proceed to the Membership Examination (see Section 1a) and candidates who pass the MRCPsych Part I will proceed to the MRCPsych Part II.

Candidates who have failed the Membership Examination on five occasions will not be permitted to enter the MRCPsych Part I or Part II.

From October 1992, all candidates will take the MRCPsych Part I and Part II.

Dates of Examination Calendar for 1987

	<i>MCQ Paper</i>	<i>Essay Paper</i>	<i>Clinical</i>	<i>Oral</i>
Preliminary Test	18 Feb	18 Feb	—	—
Membership Examination	6 May	6 May	11–13 May	11–13 May
MRCPsych Part I	14 Oct	—	19–20 Oct	—
Membership Examination	4 Nov	4 Nov	9–11 Nov	9–11 Nov

Dates of Examination Calendar for 1988

	<i>MCQ Paper(s)</i>	<i>Essay Paper</i>	<i>SAQ Paper</i>	<i>Clinical</i>	<i>Oral</i>
MRCPsych Part I	20 April	—	—	25–26 April	—
Membership Examination	4 May	4 May	—	9–11 May	9–11 May
MRCPsych Part II	4 May	4 May	4 May	9–11 May	9–11 May
MRCPsych Part I	19 Oct	—	—	24–25 Oct	—
Membership Examination	2 Nov	2 Nov	—	7–9 Nov	7–9 Nov
MRCPsych Part II	2 Nov	2 Nov	2 Nov	7–9 Nov	7–9 Nov