



**MRCs Part A Course:
Basic Sciences and Clinical
Application**



Feedback - February 2018

MRCS Part A Course: Basic Sciences and Clinical Application

Basic science subjects such as anatomy, physiology, pathology and microbiology are the principal components for developing a strong foundation for surgical training and for the understanding of its clinically applied aspects such as surgical anatomy and critical care physiology. As such, these subjects form an integral part in the MRCS A exam.

This two-day course provided the attendee with an overview of basic physiological principles, consolidated the candidate's core and applied surgical knowledge in anatomy and relevant pathology, and provided a focused revision of pertinent topics as tested in the exam.

The course was structured into two distinct but related days. During the first day the emphasis was on basic and applied pathology, basic physiology and critical care, principles of surgery and clinical topics. The second day predominately featured topics on basic and surgically applied anatomy, and its related pathology. Microbiology pertinent to MRCS A was also covered during day two. It was advised that candidates attend both days of the course to obtain full benefit but if they were particularly strong in the topics on day one or day two they had the option of attending just one day of the course.

Candidates who attended this course received full access to MRCS Part A online educational resources from www.doctorexams.co.uk for a 4 month period. This resource contains 100s of SBA and EMQ questions for practice. In addition, they also received full access to all presentations via a secure, online link. All these benefits and privileges were included within the course fee.



Course Information

Course date:	16th, 17th and 18th February 2018
Venue:	School of Biosciences, Cardiff University, Cardiff
Attendance:	42 Delegates
Aimed at:	Trainees preparing for MRCS Part A Examination
Faculty:	Surgeons
Course fee:	£ 375.00



Course Programme

Day 1

SURGICAL AND APPLIED ANATOMY, AND SYSTEM SPECIFIC PATHOLOGY

0830 - 0840	Registration
0840 - 0850	Introduction and format of the Exam
0850 - 1030	Brachial plexus, arm, shoulder, scapula, back and rotator cuff (includes upper limb nerve injuries, palsies and shoulder pathologies)
1030 - 1110	Cubital fossa, forearm, flexor retinaculum and hand (includes carpal tunnel syndrome, ulnar nerve palsies, hand pathologies)

1110 - 1130 Break for refreshments

1130 - 1230	Thoracic wall; Mediastinum; Heart; Lungs; Oesophagus; Diaphragm
1230 - 1300	Vascular anatomy of thorax, head and neck and thorax (includes vascular access and chest drain insertion); Vascular Pathologies of Neck and Thorax

1300 - 1340 Lunch

1340 - 1420	Transpyloric plane, anterior abdominal wall and inguinal region (includes hernia and scrotal swellings)
1420 - 1440	Abdominal anatomy; Hollow and Solid Organs (includes bowel pathologies, colon cancer and segmental bowel resections)
1440 - 1530	Pelvis and Perineum

1530 - 1550 Break for refreshments

1550 - 1630	Lumbar and lumbosacral plexus
1630 - 1715	Femoral triangle, thigh, popliteal fossa; Lower leg, ankle and foot (includes lower limb nerve injuries, palsies, compartment syndrome and ankle injuries)
1715 - 1800	Revision of Day 1 and Sample Questions

1800 End of Day 1

Course Programme

Day 2

HEAD AND NECK ANATOMY, AUTONOMOUS NERVOUS SYSTEM, MICROBIOLOGY, CANCER PATHOLOGY, GENETICS AND STATISTICS

0830 - 0840	Registration
0840 - 1040	Skull base, Head, Scalp and Face; Surgical Pathologies of the Head and Face (includes parotid tumours)
1040 - 1100	Break for refreshments
1100 - 1230	Neck, Thyroid, Larynx, Pharynx, Tongue; Surgical Pathologies of the Neck
1230 - 1300	Autonomous Nervous System
1300 - 1345	Lunch
1345 - 1445	Essential topics in Microbiology, Tuberculosis and Necrotising Fasciitis
1445 - 1530	Statistics and its Surgical Application
1530 - 1550	Break for refreshments
1550 - 1630	Cancer pathology (Brain, Oesophagus and Lung)
1630 - 1700	Genetics and Inheritance Patterns
1700 - 1830	Revision of Days 1 and 2, and Sample Questions
1830	End of Day 2

Course Programme

Day 3

GENERAL PATHOLOGY, BENIGN AND MALIGNANT TUMOURS, PRINCIPLES OF SURGERY, AND APPLIED SURGICAL SCIENCES

0830 - 0930 Management of Trauma; ATLS Principles; Head Injury; Neurophysiology

0930 - 1000 Basic and General Pathology

1000 - 1025 Cardiorespiratory physiology

1025 - 1055 Pre-operative Assessment

1055 - 1115 Post-operative Complications and Management

1115 - 1135 Break for refreshments

1140 - 1210 Fundamentals of Wound Healing; Reconstructive and Plastic Surgery

1210 - 1245 Principles of Local Anaesthetics; Tourniquets; Diathermy; Laparoscopic Surgery

1245 - 1300 Sutures, Suture Materials and Needles

1300 - 1340 Lunch

1345 - 1415 Management of Burns

1415 - 1500 Lumps and Benign Lesions; Ulcers; Vascular Pathologies and Vascular Surgery

1500 - 1530 Cancers of Thyroid and Breast

1530 - 1550 Break for refreshments

1550 - 1620 Melanoma and Testicular Cancers

1620 - 1650 Endocrine and Renal Physiology; Calcium Metabolism

1650 - 1815 Revision of all 3 days and Sample Questions

1815 End of Course

Faculty

Dr Alan Watson, BSc, PhD

Reader in Anatomy and Neuroanatomist

University of Cardiff

Ms Clare Carpenter, BSc (Anat), MB BCh, MRCS (Eng), MD, FRCS (T&O) Consultant Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon

University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff

Mr Edmund Leung, DMedSci, MRCS, FRCS

Consultant General Surgeon

Hereford County Hospital

Mr Kevin Conway, MB BCh, MD, FRCS (Gen Surg)

Consultant Vascular Surgeon

Royal Glamorgan Hospital

Dr Paul Morgan, FRCA

Consultant Intensivist

University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff

Professor Stuart Enoch, MBBS, MRCSEd, MRCS (Eng), PGCert (Med Sci), PhD

Professor, Higher Surgical Education

Doctors Academy

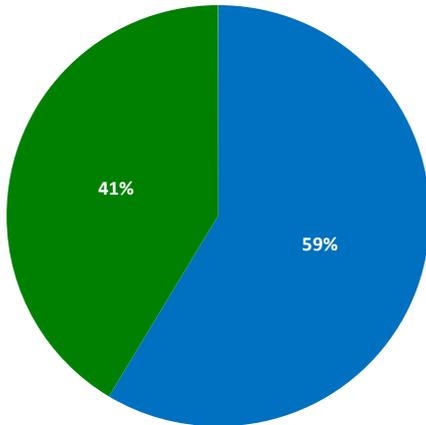
Miss Yan Mei Goh, MBChB, MRCS, PGDip Clin Ed.

PhD Research Fellow - Imperial College London

Specialist Registrar in General Surgery - Oxford Deanery

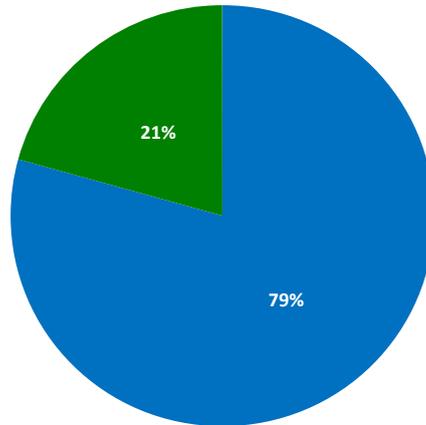
Overall Teaching Feedback

How was the content of the course?



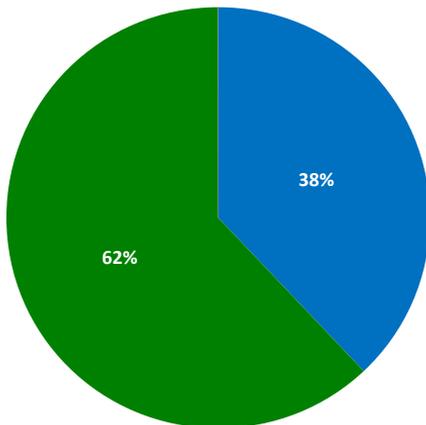
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

How would you rate the general academic standard of the main lecturer?



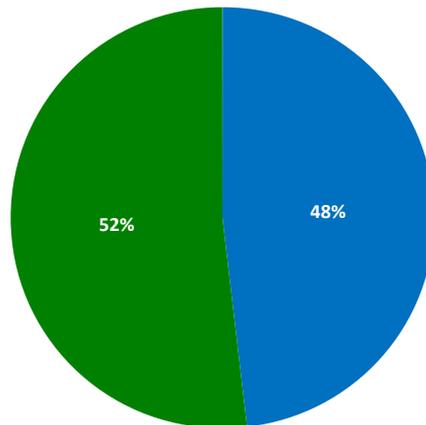
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

How would you rate the general academic standard of the invited lectures?



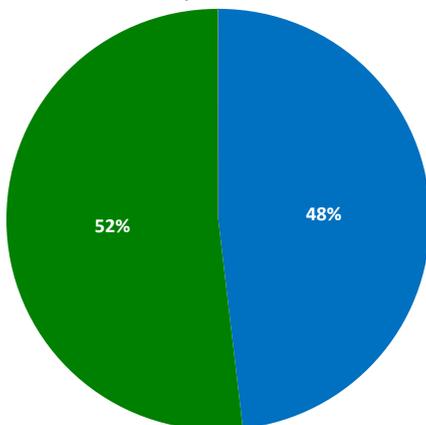
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

How was the clarity of the lectures?



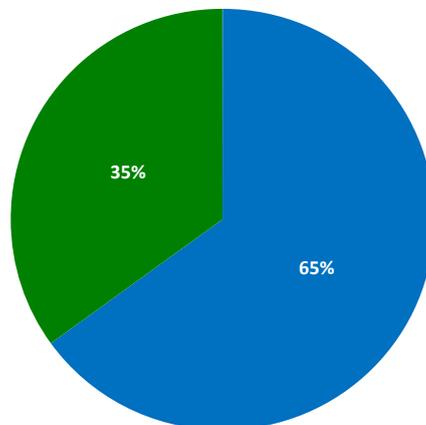
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Did the course cover the main topics you consider are important for the exam?



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

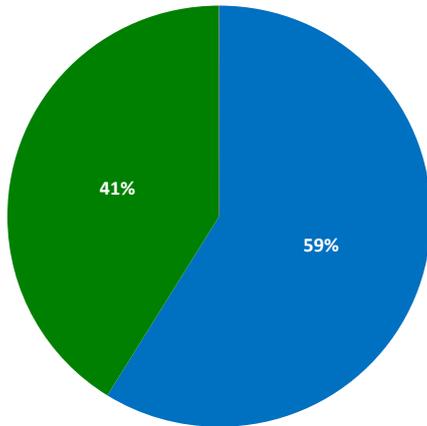
Brachial Plexus, Arm, Shoulder, Scapula, Back and Rotator Cuff (Prof S Enoch)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

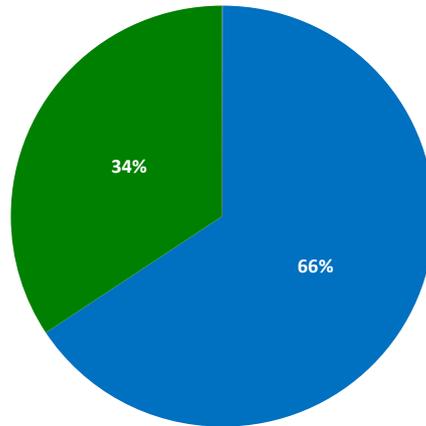
Overall Teaching Feedback

Cubital Fossa, Forearm, Flexor Retinaculum and Hand (Prof S Enoch)



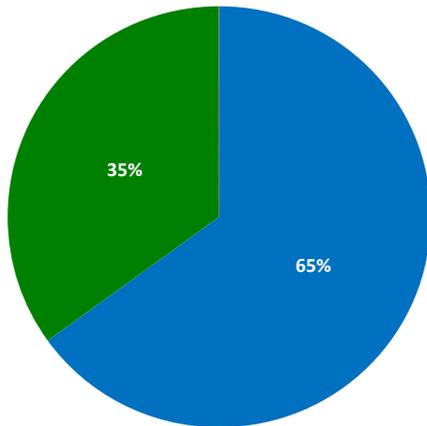
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Thoracic Wall; Mediastinum; Heart; Lungs; Oesophagus; Diaphragm (Prof S Enoch)



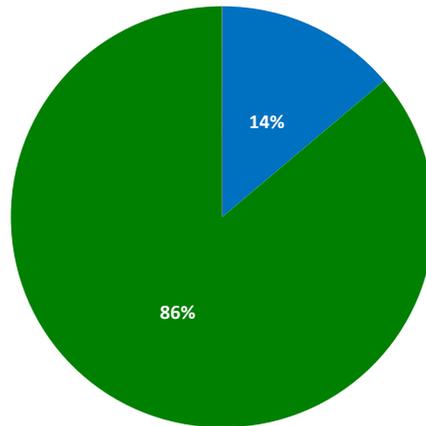
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Vascular anatomy of Thorax, Head and Neck and Thorax (Prof S Enoch)



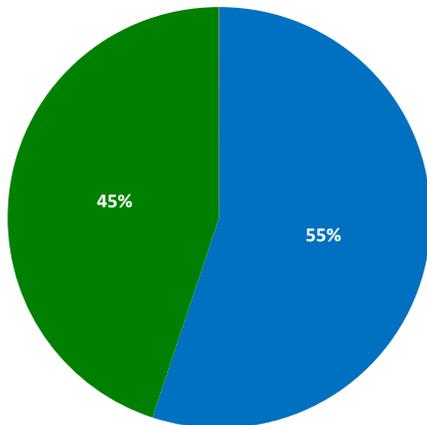
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Overview of the anatomy of the brain and lesions (Dr A Watson)



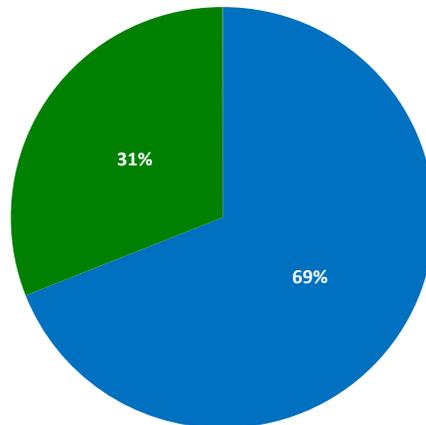
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Transyloric Plane, Anterior Abdominal Wall and Inguinal Region (Prof S Enoch)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

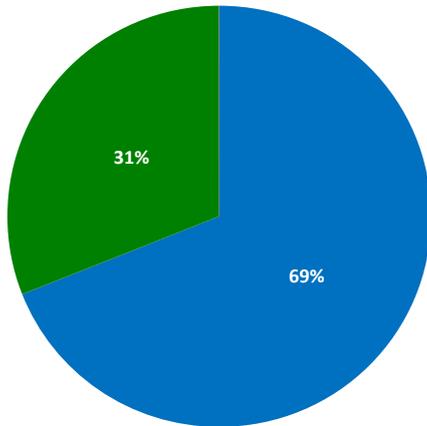
Abdominal Anatomy; Hollow and Solid Organs (Prof S Enoch)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

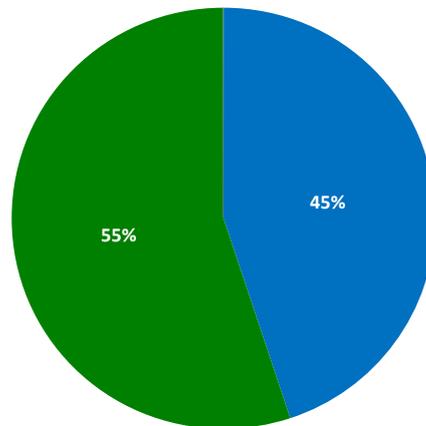
Overall Teaching Feedback

Pelvis and Perineum (Prof S Enoch)



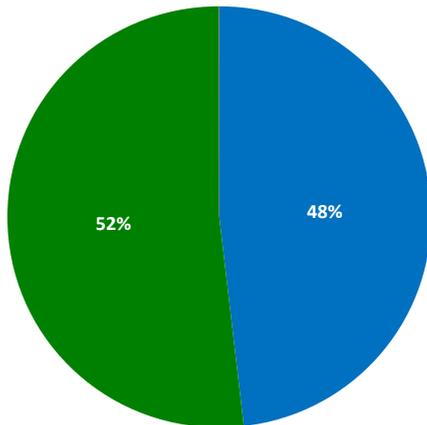
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Lumbar and Lumbosacral Plexus (Prof S Enoch)



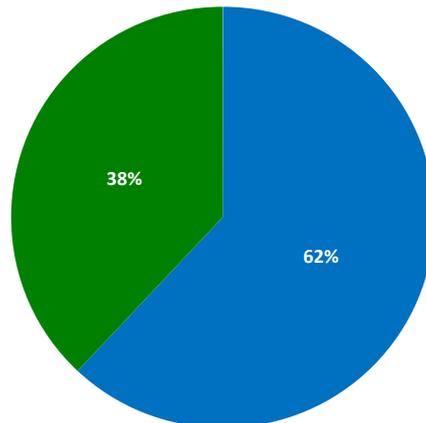
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Femoral Triangle, Thigh, Popliteal Fossa; Lower Leg, Ankle and Foot (Prof S Enoch)



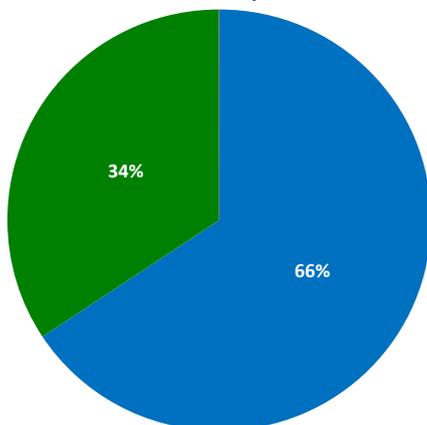
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Skull base, Head, Scalp and Face; Surgical Pathologies of the Head and Face (Prof S Enoch)



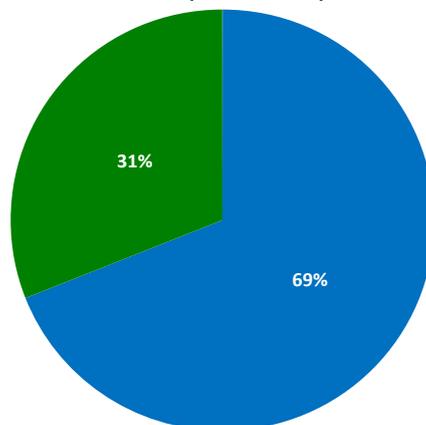
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Neck, Thyroid, Larynx, Pharynx, Tongue (Prof S Enoch)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

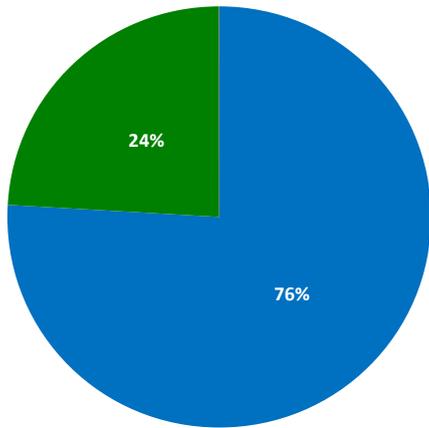
Head and Neck Embryology; Pharyngeal Arches (Prof S Enoch)



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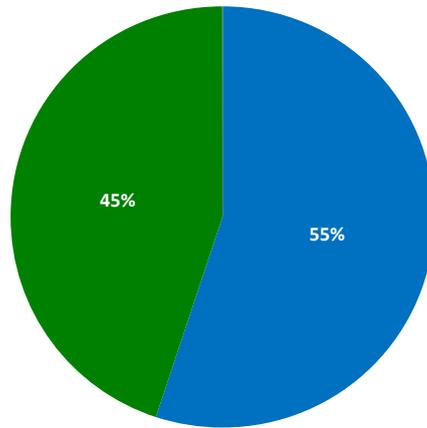
Overall Teaching Feedback

Autonomic Nervous System (Prof S Enoch)



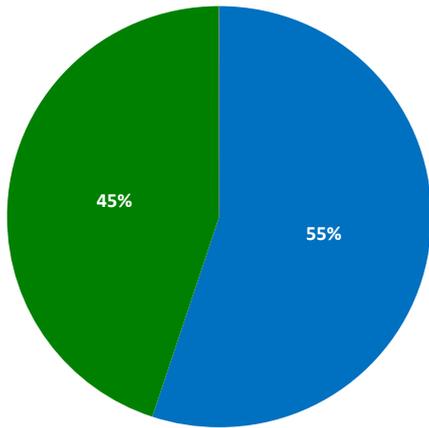
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Spinal Cord and Cord Lesions (Prof S Enoch)



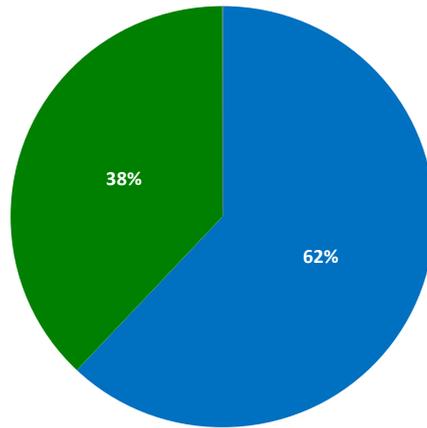
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Sutures, Suture Materials and Needles (Prof S Enoch)



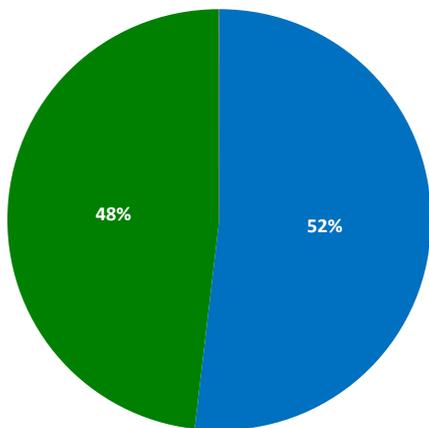
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Essential topics in Microbiology (Prof S Enoch)



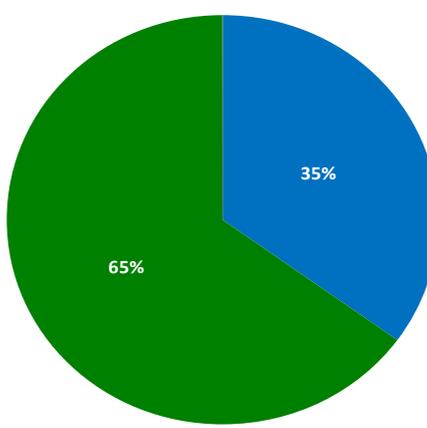
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Necrotising Fasciitis (Prof S Enoch)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

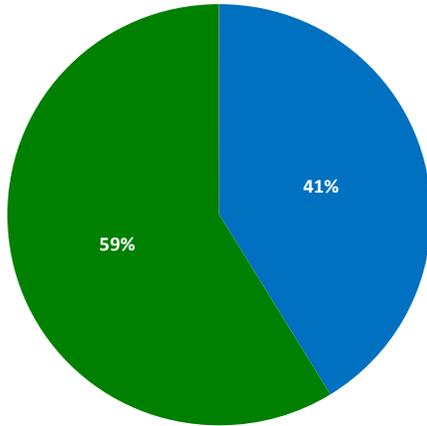
Statistics (Prof S Enoch)



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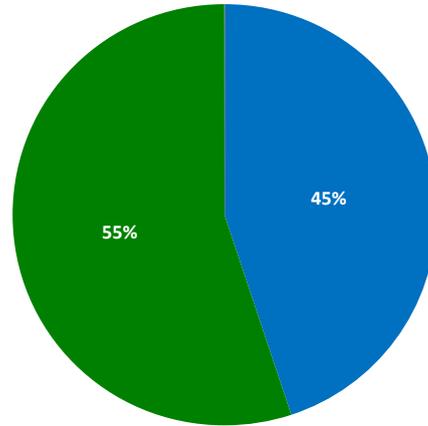
Overall Teaching Feedback

Genetics and Inheritance Patterns (Prof S Enoch)



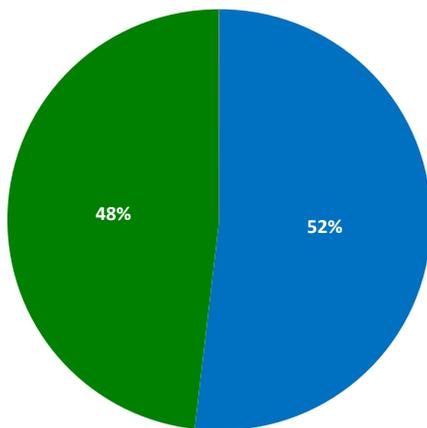
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

GI Surgery including all pathologies (Mr E Leung)



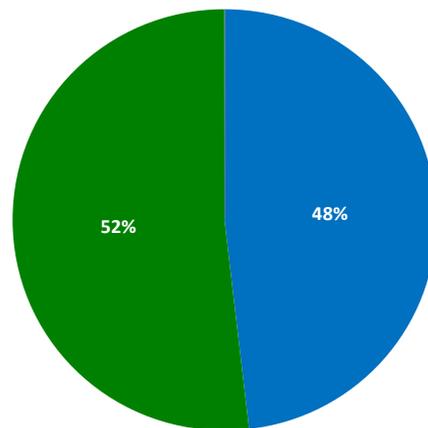
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Colonic Cancers (Mr E Leung)



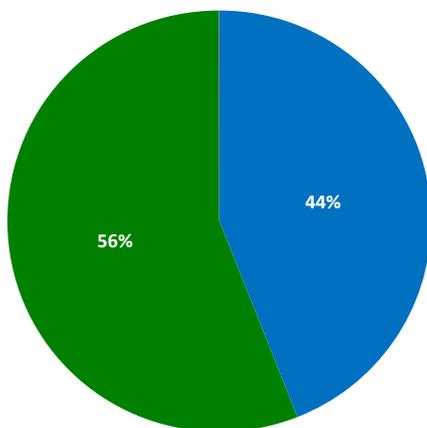
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Oesophageal Cancer (Mr E Leung)



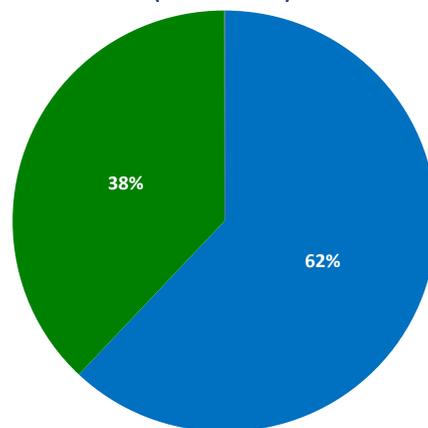
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Gastric Cancer (Mr E Leung)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

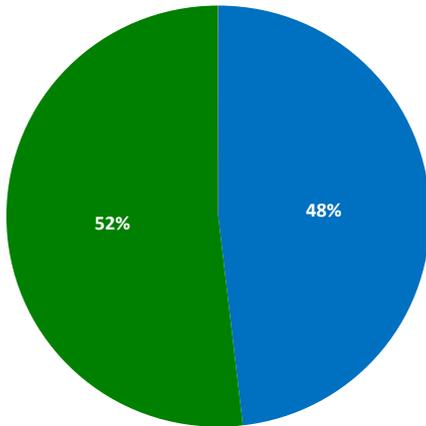
Management of Trauma; ATLS Principles (Prof S Enoch)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

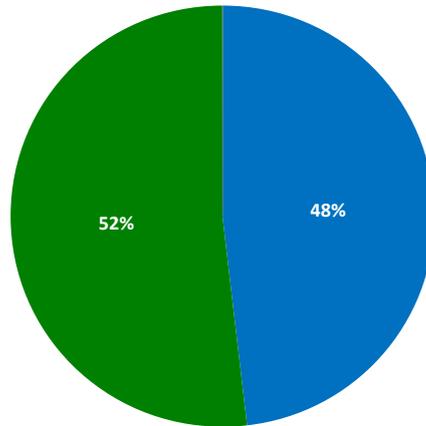
Overall Teaching Feedback

Pelvic and Long Bone Fractures



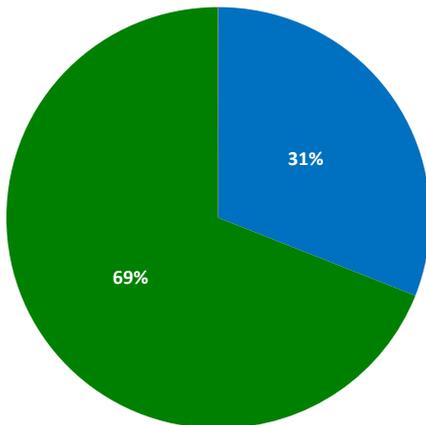
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Management of Fracture Neck of Femur



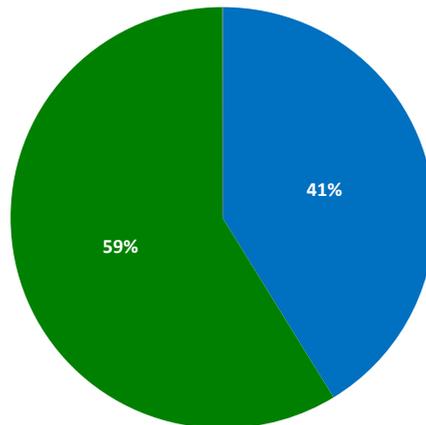
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Vascular Surgery - AAA (Mr K Conway)



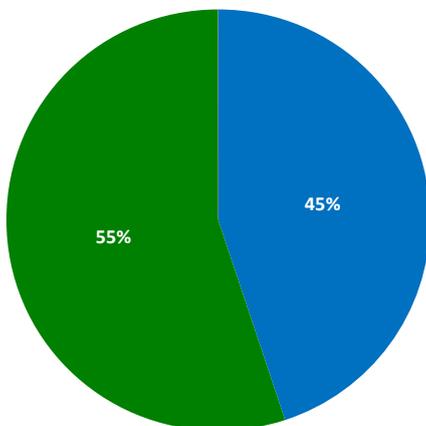
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Vascular Surgery – Lower Limb (Mr K Conway)



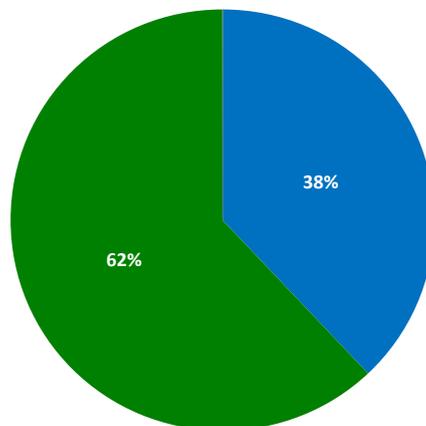
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Quickfire revision and EMQs (Prof S Enoch)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

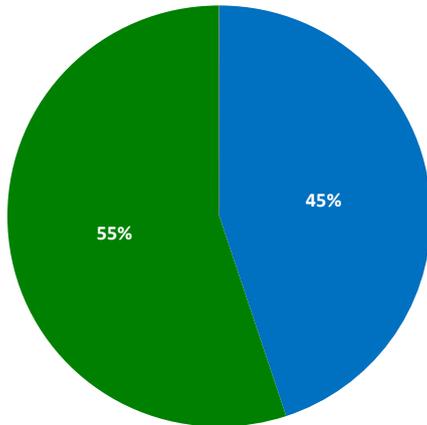
Vascular Surgery – Carotid (Mr K Conway)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

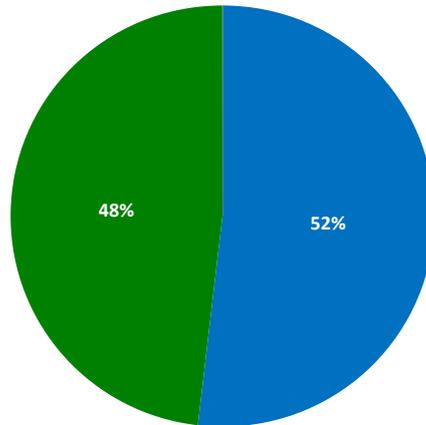
Overall Teaching Feedback

Basic and General Pathology (Prof S Enoch)



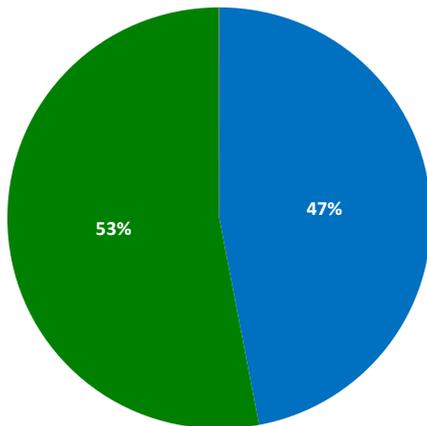
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Pre-operative Assessment (Prof S Enoch)



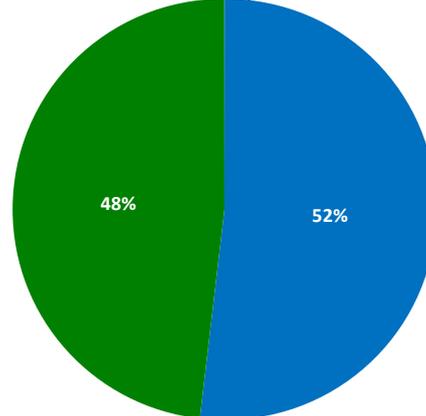
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Overview of Biopsies and Thyroid Cancers (Prof S Enoch)



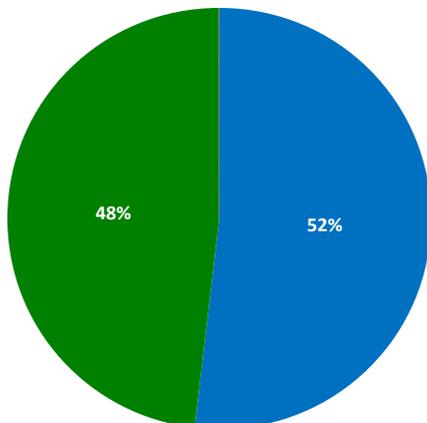
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Fundamentals of Wound Healing; Reconstructive and Plastic Surgery (Prof S Enoch)



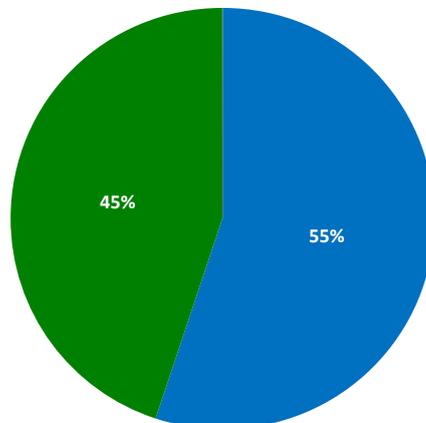
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Principles of Local Anaesthetics (Prof S Enoch)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

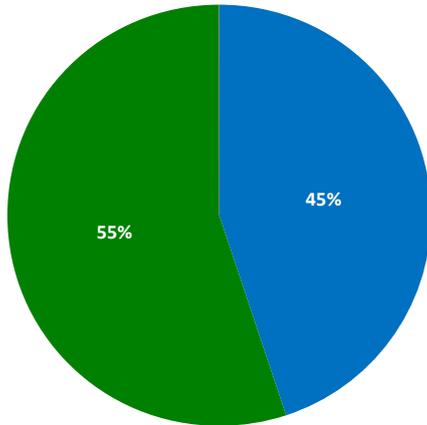
Management of Burns (Prof S Enoch)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

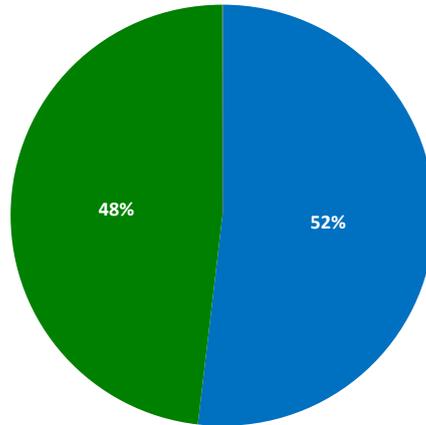
Overall Teaching Feedback

Ulcers (Prof S Enoch)



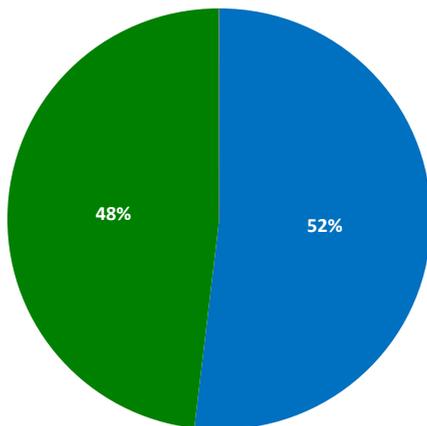
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Melanoma and its Management (Prof S Enoch)



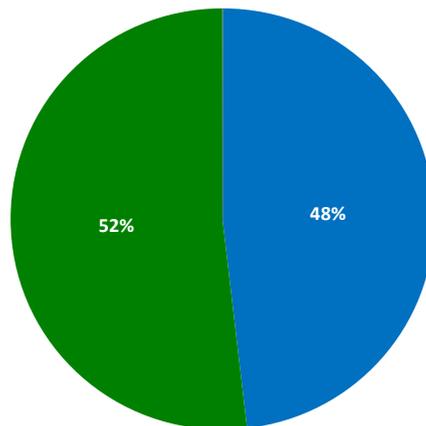
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Cutaneous malignancies (Prof S Enoch)



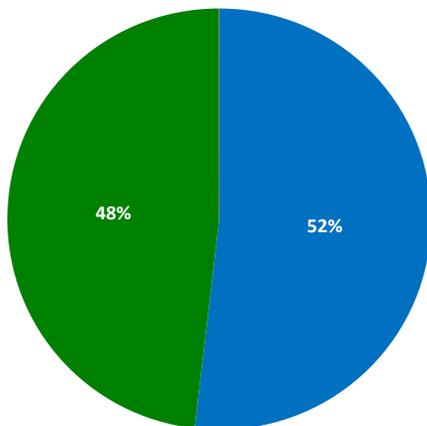
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Testicular Cancers (Prof S Enoch)



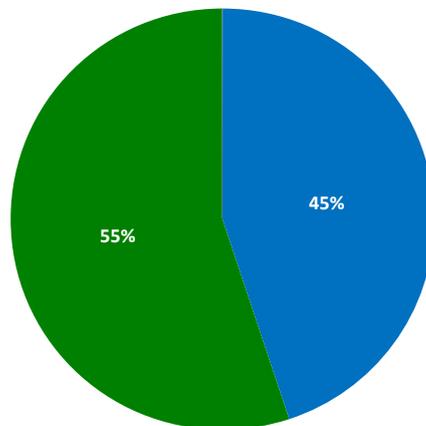
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

Quickfire revision and SBAs (Prof S Enoch)



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

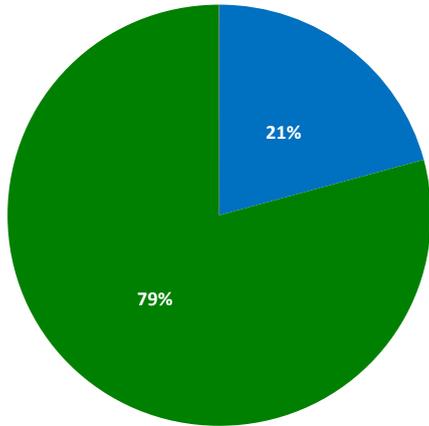
How were the facilities and venue?



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

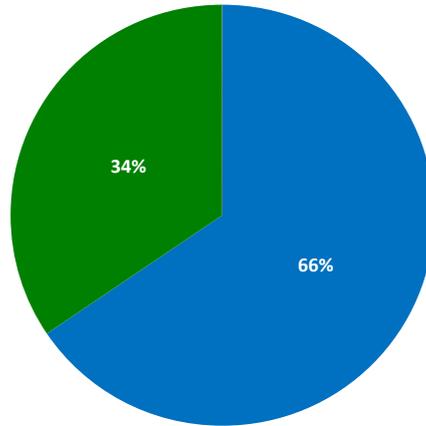
Overall Teaching Feedback

How were the refreshments and lunch?



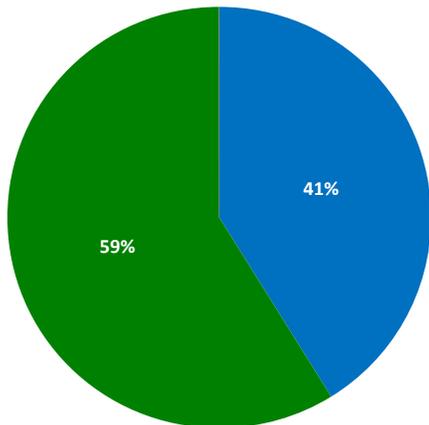
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Neutral ■ Fair ■ Poor

How was the general friendliness of the faculty and organisers?



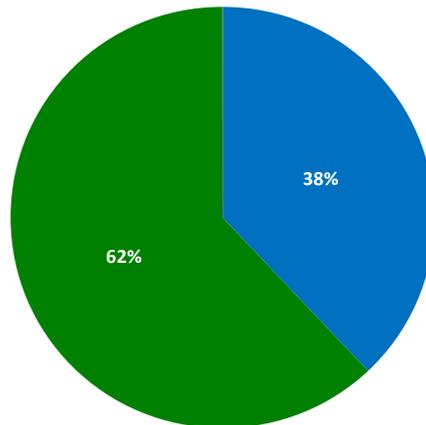
■ Very friendly ■ Friendly ■ Neutral
■ Not very friendly ■ Can't comment

Would you recommend this course to a friend?



■ Certainly ■ Most Certainly ■ Probably ■ Unlikely ■ Not at all

Do you think that this course provided good value for money?



■ Certainly ■ Most Certainly ■ Probably ■ Unlikely ■ Not at all

Individual Comments

Fantastic overall. On searching, I think it's the only course of its type (MRCS Part A specific). Therefore, I'm grateful to have attended. Hopefully, my next MRCS Part A attempt will be a success.

SI

The Ipswich Hospital, Suffolk

Excellent from start to finish. Covered important aspects and highlighted subjects I needed to revise.

DN

Conquest Hospital, St Leonards on Sea

I wish I did this course earlier! It was like an eye opener, very good presentations, impressed with the quality of presentations. MCQs were very helpful too.

AG

Peterborough City Hospital, Peterborough

This course was arranged at a perfect time for me to see what areas I was lacking in knowledge. Prof Enoch is an excellent lecturer and very engaging and I would certainly recommend his courses.

SR

Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley

I did day 1 only, am applying for teaching fellowship in anatomy. Enjoyed the course. Will be doing the exams next year though, will be coming back.

AB

Kingston Hospital, Kingston upon Thames

Very useful guide to prepare for MRCS.

PN

Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley

Overall brilliant course. Set my revision forward by a good few weeks. Thank you to all involved.

NK

Leicester General Hospital, Leicester

Very organised course & informative lectures which are to be learnt in 3 days.

KT

Glan Clwyd District General Hospital, Rhyl

Mr Enoch was a walking talking Anatomy Atlas book. He is truly God gifted. And I simply loved the way he delivered his lectures. Short to the point topics and very crisp. No time to even yawn.

SK

St Bartholomew's Hospital, London

Individual Comments

Really well thought out 3 days.

SL
Prince Charles Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil

Very good.

HU
King's College Hospital, London

It was excellent and I had a good idea for how to tackle the exam.

ME
Bupa Arabia

A great concise guide to focus revision.

JH
Princess Royal Hospital, Telford

Overall very useful, relevant and succinct.

JB
Princess Royal Hospital, Telford

Good course. Well organised.

SH
Northern General Hospital, Sheffield

Course was organised in a very well structured manner. Prof S Enoch is excellent. He showed a different approach in understanding what and how to study for the examination.

ST

Very well organised course and relevant topics covered.

EO
Bon Secours Hospital Cork

Excellent.

AT
Colchester General Hospital, Colchester

Excellent course, well run and perfect timing before the exam.

AB
Southmead Hospital, Bristol



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Doctors Academy is a UK-based International Non-Profit Organisation comprising of doctors, dentists and scientists that undertakes a diverse range of educational activities globally. The aim of the Academy is to disseminate information and exchange medical knowledge between professionals from diverse backgrounds working in a variety of healthcare settings. This is achieved by the provision of a number of attendance courses, publishing house, online resources and international events/ competitions.

Courses (a selection):

Undergraduate:

- Final Year Medicine and Surgical Revision Courses
- Training the Clinical Anatomy Trainer
- Clinical Anatomy as Applied to Trauma and Emergency Medicine
- Surgical Anatomy of Important Operative Procedures
- Future Surgeons: Key Skills (RCSEd delivered)
- Structured Introduction to Surgical Skills

Postgraduate:

- MRCS Part A
- MRCEM Part A
- MRCS Part B OSCE
- DOHNS: Intensive Revision & OSCE
- Intercollegiate Basic Surgical Skills (RCSEd delivered)
- MRCP PACES Part 2
- FRCS (General Surgery) Exit Exam
- Cadaveric Ultrasound-Guided Musculoskeletal Intervention Course
- Ultrasound-Assisted Botulinum Toxin Injection for Neuromuscular Disorders
- Live Advanced Laparoscopic Colorectal Course



Forthcoming key events:

- **International Medical Summer School**
Manchester, 6th to 10th August 2018
- **International Academic and Research Conference**
Manchester, 11th August 2018
- **World University Anatomy Challenge**
Manchester, 9th and 10th August 2018

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Online Revision Resources

DoctorExams consists of 1000s of questions with detailed explanations in MCQ, EMQ, SBA and SAQ formats. Questions are written by the Doctors Academy group of experienced clinicians and clinical academics, with mock exams and feedback on performance included to aid a candidate's focused revision of topics. Based on past exams, these questions are carefully crafted to suit the requirements of undergraduate students & postgraduate trainees undertaking relevant speciality exams.

Resources for:

- Medical Students
- Dental Students
- International Entrance Exams
- MRCS Exams
- General Surgery Exams
- Plastic Surgery Exams
- DOHNS Exams

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