

# AKT and KFP guide



#### **AKT and KFP guide**

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands and seas on which we work and live, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and future.

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# This guide

The *AKT* and *KFP* guide is designed for current and prospective Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) Fellowship examinations candidates.

Everything candidates need to know about the Applied Knowledge Test (AKT) and Key Feature Problem (KFP) exam is contained within this guide, which outlines the standards, processes and features used to develop each exam, and provides examples of question types and tips for preparation.

The purpose of this guide is to ensure that candidates are informed about every aspect of the RACGP Fellowship examinations, from theory to quality assurance and results.

This guide does not cover details of enrolment, Fellowship pathways, exam delivery, education standards, policy or appeals. It is purely focused on the exams.

Visit the RACGP website for the **policy framework**, details about **general practice pathways**, and **further information** about enrolment. Further information about education standards and the **RACGP Curriculum** is also available.

# Fellowship

Fellowship of the RACGP (FRACGP) is admission to the specialty of general practice and an important recognition of a candidates' skills by their college and peers.

FRACGP allows a general practitioner (GP) to:

- · practise unsupervised anywhere in Australia
- work unsupervised in general practice
- claim A1 Medicare rebates
- use the post-nominal 'FRACGP'.

RACGP Fellowship examinations are of the highest quality, developed by GPs for GPs. The RACGP's rigorous development processes are subject to closely monitored quality assurance and continuous improvement. The exams are delivered in various locations across Australia.

The RACGP Fellowship examinations assess a candidate's competency for unsupervised general practice anywhere in Australia. Each exam has a unique and targeted approach to assessing knowledge and ability.

This guide focuses on the AKT and KFP exams.

Information regarding the Clinical Competency Exam (CCE) is available in the Candidate guidelines for the Clinical Competency Examination.

# Applied Knowledge Test (AKT)

# What is the AKT?

The AKT is designed to test the application of knowledge in the clinical context of Australian general practice, rather than just knowledge per se. The level of applied knowledge assessed in this exam is that which is required for functioning as an unsupervised GP within Australia.

Questions in the AKT are written by experienced GPs who currently work in clinical practice, and are based on clinical presentations typically seen in the general practice setting.

The exam consists of 150 items. There are two question types:

- Single best answer (SBA)
- Modified extended matching questions (MEMQ)

Examples of each type are included below.

All questions hold equal value, and no negative marks are given for incorrect answers.

#### How long does it take to complete the AKT?

The AKT is a 3.5-hour exam. However, a universal allowance of an additional 30 minutes has been granted to all candidates. This allows extra time for candidates for whom English is a second language, for slow readers and for other reasons.

All candidates are therefore given four hours to complete the AKT.

### What does the AKT assess?

As the name – Applied Knowledge Test – implies, the AKT is designed to assess applied knowledge. The exam goes beyond simple rote learning and memorising of facts, and each question explores application of knowledge within a given clinical scenario in the context of Australian general practice.

#### How to prepare for the AKT

Exam preparation advice and relevant resources are outlined in the 'AKT and KFP exam' section of this guide.

This section details specific advice on the best approach to preparing for the AKT. Candidates should be aware of a number of factors when sitting the AKT:

- It is important to read the clinical scenario carefully, as the information contained within the clinical scenario should assist in selecting the correct option.
- Candidates are advised that if information is not given in the stem, it can be assumed to be negative. For example, if the patient smokes, then this information will be included in the stem. If no smoking history is given in the stem, then the patient can be assumed to be a non-smoker.

- It is important to read the question carefully and understand what is being asked.
   For example, the answer to a question that asks for the 'most appropriate initial investigation' may be different to a question that asks for the 'most appropriate investigation to confirm the provisional diagnosis'.
- Although it is possible that more than one option is plausible, only the 'best' or 'most appropriate' option for the clinical scenario provided should be selected.
- The question should be answered in the context of the clinical scenario provided, taking the age, gender and history provided into consideration.
- The question should be answered in the context of Australian general practice. Note that all questions are based in metropolitan general practice unless otherwise specified as rural or remote.
- If a candidate is having difficulty with a question, it might be helpful to consider how they would manage this patient in their own clinical practice setting.
- Time management is critical candidates should not spend too long on questions they consider to be difficult. Questions should be flagged for review later during the exam, time permitting.
- There is no negative marking for the AKT, so candidates are encouraged to select an option rather than leave any questions unanswered.

# **AKT question types**

The AKT has two types of multiple-choice questions – SBA and MEMQ. Both question types consist of a stem, a lead-in statement and a set of answer options.

The stem is a clinical scenario that contains all of the relevant clinical information necessary to answer the question, as well as patient details such as age, gender, occupation and the presenting complaint.

The stem may also contain examination findings or investigation results, depending on whether the focus of the question is diagnosis, investigation or treatment/ management.

The stem is followed by a question along the lines of: 'What is the most appropriate investigation?'

The final part of an SBA or MEMQ is the answer options, which are listed alphabetically and will include a single correct answer together with the incorrect answers (distractors).

SBA questions will usually have five answer options, while MEMQ will have a longer list of up to 10.

### **AKT** sample questions

#### Example 1. SBA

Peter Jacobs, aged 52 years, presents for review of his blood pressure. He takes ramipril 5 mg daily and amlodipine 5 mg daily. Additionally, he was commenced on atenolol 25 mg daily, three months ago. On examination, his blood pressure is 160/100 mmHg and heart rate 80/min regular. Peter's biochemistry results from last week are shown below.

Biochemistry	Result	Normal range
Sodium	142 mmol/L	135 -145
Potassium	3.2 mmol/L*	3.5 - 5.2
Chloride	109 mmol/L	95 - 110
Bicarbonate	28 mmol/L	22 - 32
Urea	3.1 mmol/L	2.5 - 8.0
Creatinine	60 µmol/L	45 - 90
Estimated glomerular filtration rate	> 90 mL/min/1.73 m2	>90
Urate	0.23 mmol/L	< 0.36

You arrange further investigations to support the provisional diagnosis and adjust his medications accordingly.

#### What investigation result is MOST likely to support the provisional diagnosis?

- A. High cortisol after overnight dexamethasone suppression test
- B. High plasma aldosterone/renin ratio
- C. High plasma free metanephrines
- D. Low aldosterone
- E. No cortisol change with adrenocorticotropic hormone stimulation test

Consider the answers below.

#### Example 2. MEMQ

Michael Masterson, aged 35 years, presents with a two-day history of numbness, tingling and pain in both legs, with difficulty mobilising. The pain is worse with movement and worse at night. Last week, he had fever, cough, rhinorrhoea and a sore throat which have now resolved. On examination, his tympanic temperature is 36.5°C. He has symmetrically reduced power in his lower limbs with reduced knee and ankle reflexes, however his sensation is intact. COVID-19 has been definitively excluded.

#### What is the MOST appropriate provisional diagnosis?

- A. Cauda equina syndrome
- B. Guillain-Barré syndrome
- C. Lumbar disc prolapse
- D. Motor neurone disease
- E. Multiple sclerosis
- F. Myasthenia gravis
- G. Polymyositis
- H. Rhabdomyolysis

#### Consider the answers below.

#### Answers for AKT sample questions

#### **Example 1. SBA**

#### B. High plasma aldosterone/renin ratio

This is an example of a three-step question. It requires candidates to form a provisional diagnosis, know the appropriate investigation to order and to understand the investigation result that would support the provisional diagnosis.

This is a case of treatment resistant hypertension that tests candidates' knowledge of secondary causes of hypertension. A diagnosis of primary hyperaldosteronism (Conn's syndrome) is the most appropriate provisional diagnosis in this patient with treatment resistant hypertension and hypokalaemia. Therefore, the investigation result which is most likely to support the provisional diagnosis is a high plasma aldosterone/renin ratio.

#### **Example 2. MEMQ**

#### B. Guillain-Barré syndrome

Although Guillain-Barré syndrome is a rare condition, it is important that it is recognised early to allow prompt management. It is the most appropriate provisional diagnosis in this case due to the symmetrical ascending weakness in conjunction with a preceding viral infection. Polymyositis may also be triggered by a viral infection, but the pattern of motor weakness differs as it tends to affect proximal muscles including the shoulders and pelvic girdle. Myasthenia gravis usually has an insidious onset with characteristic fatiguability.

### **AKT marking**

In the period between a candidate sitting the exam and their results being released, the RACGP implements several key quality assurance processes to ensure that all results are accurate, fair and reflect the appropriate standards.

The AKT has a single mark assigned to each question, with 150 marks assigned to each exam. Each question is therefore worth 0.67% of a raw score.

However, the psychometrics of the exam performance occasionally might indicate a need for some items to undergo post-exam review. One outcome of such a review may be an alteration to, or removal of, the item/s from the exam. This will invariably increase the weighting of each remaining question.

There is no negative marking: incorrect answers do not attract a mark.

As all questions are multiple choice and each question has only one correct answer, the exam does not require human marking and is auto-marked. This provides a raw score for all candidates that is then quality assured as indicated above. Before results can be established and released, however, a pass mark needs to be established through a process called 'standard setting' (refer to 'Standard setting' section of this guide).

# Key Feature Problem (KFP) exam

### What is the KFP exam?

The KFP exam is designed to assess clinical decision and clinical reasoning in practice.

The KFP exam has 26 cases, each of which is composed of a number of questions. Each case contributes equally to the overall score, making each worth 3.85% of the total mark.

The exam is designed to represent a session in Australian general practice, so the breadth of demographics and case mix reflect this. Any aspect of the RACGP Curriculum may be tested and each case may contain more than one curriculum area.

The questions in the case may be either written responses (a few words or a sentence) or a selection list, where you have to choose a set number of responses from a list of answers. This is best explained by reading through the examples in this guide.

The KFP exam is in a format that many candidates may not have encountered. It is not a simple short-answer paper where you list all the possible answers; the answers need to be in the context of the clinical case, which means the answers will need to relate to the age and gender of the patient, the clinical information given, and the location of the patient (the question will specify whether the case is in a rural, regional or urban location).

One of the most commonly encountered pitfalls in the KFP exam is to provide multiple answers that are not in the context of the question. If candidates provide more answers than requested, they will be penalised for each extra answer. Refer to the 'Extra responses' section of this guide for further information.

#### How long does it take to complete the KFP exam?

The KFP exam is a 3.5-hour exam. However, a universal allowance of an additional 30 minutes has been granted to all candidates. This allows extra time for candidates for whom English is a second language, slow readers or for other reasons.

All candidates are therefore given four hours to complete the KFP exam.

# What does the KFP exam assess?

As previously discussed, the KFP exam is designed to assess clinical practice and clinical reasoning. It looks at how candidates assess patients in the context of the scenario given and consider the key features/critical steps required to resolve the clinical problem.

Each question explores your understanding of the key features/critical steps.

A 'key feature' is a critical step in the resolution of a clinical problem in the context of everyday Australian general practice. A KFP exam question consists of a clinical case scenario and questions that focus only on those critical steps. Clinical reasoning can be defined as thinking through the various aspects of patient care to arrive at a reasonable decision regarding the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of a clinical problem in a specific patient. Patient care includes history-taking, conducting a physical exam, requesting laboratory tests and diagnostic procedures, designing safe and effective treatment regimens or preventive strategies, and providing patient education and counselling.

Clinical reasoning plays a major role in a doctor's ability to make diagnoses and decisions. It can be considered as the physician's most critical competence.

#### How to prepare for the KFP exam

Exam preparation advice and relevant resources are outlined in the 'AKT and KFP exam preparation' section of this guide.

This section details specific advice on the best approach to prepare for the KFP.

The KFP exam looks at how candidates assess patients in the context of the scenario given, as well as the key features/critical steps required to resolve the clinical problem. With this in mind, candidates should use their day-to-day practice to consider the differential diagnoses pertinent to the patient, and how this might vary from patient to patient, thinking about their steps of management. Candidates should consider, for example, what the key investigations are and why they are so important, rather than doing a full screen; how they can manage the case by means other than medication; and how this might vary from patient to patient.

Conducting a random case analysis with either a supervisor, mentor or a colleague can be an effective way for candidates to prepare for the KFP exam. This type of analysis is an invaluable way of breaking down the clinical process and reviewing its different stages.

An excellent **paper outlining random case analysis** can be found in the January– February 2013 issue of *Australian Family Physician*.

Further support material for engaging in random case analysis that builds on the *Australian Family Physician* article can be found at **General Practice Supervisors Australia**.

The KFP exam is about the assessment of the reasoning behind what GPs do every day in their clinical practice.

It is important that candidates read widely and use resources, such as the *Therapeutic guidelines* and current management guidelines, to ensure their management is contemporary.

#### **KFP exam sample questions**

The below samples include an explanation of the answers, as well as hints and tips for the KFP exam.

#### Case

Phillip Huang is a 45-year-old landscaper with a past history of hypertension and hyperlipidaemia. He is currently taking telmisartan/hydrochlorothiazide 40/12.5 mg daily and atorvastatin 40 mg daily. Recent routine blood tests revealed a low sodium of 126 mmol/L (normal range: 135–145 mmol/L) and a low chloride of 89 mmol/L (normal range: 97–105 mmol/L). Other electrolytes, urea and creatinine are normal.

Phillip feels well and is not confused. He does not drink excessive amounts of water and his physical examination is unremarkable.

#### **Question 1**

What is the most likely cause for Phillip's hyponatraemia? (Provide a single answer)

#### **Question 2**

Phillip's hyponatraemia persists, despite your initial management, and you now need to investigate further. What would be the most appropriate initial investigations to determine the underlying cause of Phillip's hyponatraemia? (Select five investigations from the list)

- Bone scan
- · Blood glucose level
- CT scan brain
- CT scan abdomen
- · Erythrocyte sedimentation rate/C-reactive protein
- · Full blood count
- Iron studies
- · Liver enzymes
- Morning serum cortisol
- · Oral glucose tolerance test
- Parathyroid hormone
- · Prostate-specific antigen
- Serum and urine osmolality
- Serum calcium
- Serum renin level
- Serum uric acid
- Thyroid function tests
- Urine protein-to-creatinine ratio
- Urine sodium concentration
- X-ray chest

Consider the answers below.

#### **Question 1**

Question 1 is an example of a 'write-in question' that asks for a single diagnosis. Some questions may ask for several answers, but they always specify how many, and there is a line for each answer in the exam.

This question is asking for the most likely cause of hyponatraemia in this specific patient, rather than just a list of causes of hyponatraemia. Candidates need to take notice of the information that the patient is well, not confused, does not drink excessive amounts of water and has an unremarkable physical examination, as these facts help to rule out other likely causes.

The question is assessing whether candidates know the most likely cause of hyponatraemia in someone who is asymptomatic but taking medications that could be significant.

It is important to recognise that hydrochlorothiazide is a class of diuretic medication which can cause hyponatraemia.

The more specific candidates are in their answer, the higher the mark they score. For example, 'medication side effect' is correct, but may only score one mark, whereas specifying 'side effect of the diuretic component of irbesartan/hydrochlorothiazide' is much more specific and would score higher.

If the candidate had provided multiple answers – for example, 'polydipsia', 'medication side effect' and 'syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion' – when only one was requested, they would have been penalised. This is called 'over-coding' or 'extra responses' (refer to 'Extra responses' section below).

Please note: exam standard is to use generic drug names, which remain constant even if there are multiple brands for many drugs.

#### **Question 2**

Question 2 involves a selection list. Many of the answers might be correct, but the key investigations are:

- Blood glucose level
- Morning serum cortisol
- Serum and urine osmolality
- Thyroid function tests
- Urine sodium concentration
- · X-ray chest.

The important issue in this question is that the case has progressed. The patient's hyponatraemia persists, despite management, so candidates now have to consider other possible causes and determine the key investigations to best assess the possible differential diagnoses.

In order to develop feedback for both successful and unsuccessful candidates, the examiners provide feedback on the question they have marked at the end of each exam cycle, highlighting common errors and what constituted good and poor responses. This document is available to all candidates when the results are released.

In order to select these key investigations, candidates need to consider the most likely causes, apart from your answer in Question 1, for this patient's hyponatraemia. They also need to consider which investigations will best help differentiate between the most likely underlying causes.

Candidates must remember to choose the responses that are most likely in this patient, an asymptomatic 45-year-old male with hypertension and hyperlipidaemia who has a normal physical examination. This would mean that cancer is an unlikely cause in this context, so investigations to find an underlying cancer would not be the most useful as your initial investigations for the cause in this patient.

Candidates should avoid choosing investigations they might consider routine, but which will not necessarily help find the cause of the hyponatraemia. They should not choose options that would normally only be needed if a previous investigation was inconclusive (eg select 'blood glucose level', rather than 'oral glucose tolerance test').

It is also important to note that there are six answers that score marks, but the question asks for five. This is how some of the KFP exams are marked and means that candidates do not have to list every possible correct answer.

In the case of selection lists, candidates must only select the number of answers requested – five in this case. If candidates make a mistake, they need to place a cross through the circle they want to remove and shade a new choice. They must not provide extra responses on a selection list.

Selection lists are usually used in investigation questions, as this reflects what GPs do in practice; clinical systems usually have all of the investigations available to select as appropriate. This can vary; selection lists may be used for other types of question and, likewise, there may be write-in questions for investigations, especially when asking about single most important investigations or if a very limited list of investigations is requested.

#### Extra responses

The KFP exam identifies candidates that are able to determine the most appropriate response in light of the clinical scenario and the absence of peripheral determinations. Extra responses (over-coding) are those answers provided by candidates over and above the requested amount. If a question specifies that a candidate 'write two complications in note form', two spaces will be provided and two answers expected. If a candidate provides four answers when two are requested, then the two extra responses will be recorded and penalties will be applied to the final mark.

Each extra response attracts a penalty point of 0.25% of a mark. The penalties are applied to the candidate's final mark and are not applied within the individual case or question.

### Advice for answering KFP exam questions

It is important that candidates remember the following critical steps when providing answers in the KFP exam:

- Read each clinical scenario carefully, at least twice, and select the key features of the case.
- Read each question carefully. Candidates often provide answers appropriate to the scenario, but do not answer the specific question asked. If a question asks for investigations, that is what they need to provide, not examination, history or management steps.
- Provide answers in context to the scenario provided. Take note of factors, such as the gender and age, as the critical steps may be different depending on these features.

- In most cases, when asked for investigations, there will be a selection-list or multiple-choice question, so candidates do not have to consider how to group investigations. There may be exceptions when only a limited range of investigations is required. Candidates should only check the maximum number of answers requested in selection-list questions; if it specifies five investigations, they can only check up to five boxes.
- Candidates should not provide a paragraph to justify their answer or attempt to impress the examiners with their knowledge of the subject.
- Do not provide more answers than the question specifies. Extra responses will be penalised and marks deducted. If they are writing the word 'and' or including commas or justifying answers, candidates will effectively be creating a list and providing more answers than requested and will be penalised for additional answers.
- Be specific. Generalisations for example, 'referral', 'general examination', 'start
  medication' and 'refer' do not score well. Expand on these types of answers to be
  more specific if that is warranted by the clinical scenario for example, 'refer to a
  paediatrician' and 'urgent referral to the appropriate specialist'.
- Separate each answer. There will be the same number of lines as number of answers requested.
- Watch spelling. Candidates are not penalised for bad spelling, but they should ensure their answers are legible and make sense.
- Do not use abbreviations or shorthand. These can have different meanings for example, 'IBD' might represent 'irritable bowel disease' or 'inflammatory bowel disease'.
- Pace yourself. Candidates should check the time and their progress as they complete the exam, and attempt to answer all questions. The exam is designed to be completed in four hours. It may be helpful to check that you have reached the halfway point (at least the 13th case) after two hours.
- Each of the 26 cases contributes equally to the final mark, so it is important to try to answer all of them.

# **KFP exam marking**

The KFP exam is marked via two processes. Multiple-choice questions are automarked and write-in questions are marked by trained and experienced RACGP Fellow GPs. Each question is marked by a single examiner in order to ensure marking consistency for all candidates.

After trial marking a sample of candidate papers, markers then provide supervisors with feedback on the marking keys, which will be altered if adjustments are thought necessary. The skill of the marker is also reviewed and, if required, discussions take place regarding the application of the marking key. Once both the marker and the marking key have been reviewed and endorsed through trial marking, real marking commences (sample/trial papers are returned to the pool).

Examiner marking is assessed frequently throughout the process from trial marking, and at the beginning, middle and end of the final marking process. If any discrepancy is noted between the marking key, the applied mark and the supervisor/marker assessment, action is taken by marking supervisors. The question can be re-marked, if required. Our quality assurance processes are designed to assess for any examiner fatigue.

# Standard setting

A standard is a conceptual boundary between acceptable and unacceptable performance. The standard of performance required of candidates for the RACGP Fellowship exams is demonstration of competence for unsupervised general practice in Australia.

Standard setting is the process by which a standard is translated into a passing score, that divides a group of candidates into those who are at or above the standard, and those whose performance is below the standard.

Although the overall pass mark varies from exam to exam, the standards used in determining those pass marks remain constant. The processes employed by the RACGP in determining pass marks are less arbitrary than simply choosing an adequate score. They involve judgements by examiners and analysis of actual candidate performance in the assessment tasks. The result is a fair and accurate process.

### Standard setting in the AKT and KFP exam

Once marking is complete, the RACGP defines the pass mark for the exam using standard setting. The RACGP uses a criterion-referenced model of standard setting called the Modified Angoff, a well-researched and reported model currently used in high stakes assessments in Australia and internationally.

Each AKT and KFP exam question is discussed by a panel of 20 or more experienced standard setters drawn from RACGP Fellows across Australia and all aspects of clinical practice. Every question is effectively discussed and assessed for its difficulty, and a pass mark for each question is determined. If a question is deemed difficult, the number required to pass it will be lower and the pass mark is therefore independent of the cohort. The RACGP does not seek to pass a set number of candidates – the pass mark of each exam cycle is defined by the questions within the exam, thus the variability in the pass mark. If all candidates make the pass mark, then all pass; if only 40% of candidates meet the pass mark, then only 40% will pass.

# Results

# Candidate exam results (assessment and enrolment statement)

Candidates can access their results with their username and password via the RACGP website on the results release date.

Exam results will not be provided by telephone or fax.

Training Regions receive the results of their GPs in training at the same time as the candidates themselves.

### **Ratification of results**

Results need to be ratified prior to being released. The RACGP Council of Censors is responsible for reviewing and ratifying all exam results. The Council of Censors reviews the administration of the exam segment, quality assurance processes followed, pass marks and the overall result for each candidate. The information provided to the Council of Censors is de-identified to ensure each censor is unaware of a candidate's identity at the time of ratification.

#### How are exam results quality assured?

All results are quality assured through multiple stages of review. Two separate analyses are used in order to quality assure 100% of candidates' papers, ensuring the reporting systems are robust. These separate programs produce separate results and provide candidates with further assurance that the outcomes are accurate.

# **Reconsideration of an exam result**

Candidates may choose to appeal their final exam result in some circumstances. Full details relating to the grounds for appeal and how to submit an application are outlined in the RACGP's **'Dispute, Reconsideration and Appeals Policy'**. While every effort is made to ensure that all exams are delivered without incident, circumstances beyond the control of the RACGP might occasionally arise.

#### **Examination support**

Information about pre-exam support resources is available on the RACGP website.

# AKT and KFP exam preparation

This section outlines general Fellowship assessment preparation resources and advice that relate to the AKT and KFP exam. Further exam-specific advice is contained within the relevant individual sections.

Exam preparation should focus on demonstrating competency across the breadth of Australian general practice curriculum and domains. As candidates work through each exam, AKT to KFP, they will be expected to demonstrate applied knowledge and problem solving. It is therefore important that candidates learn to apply their knowledge in a clinical setting by using processes, such as clinical reasoning.

All candidates will require a pass in both the AKT and KFP exam in order to undertake the CCE (refer to RACGP policy).

### **Public exam report**

Following each examination, the RACGP publishes information pertaining to the cohort performance and outcomes. This publicly available information can be accessed on the RACGP website.

These reports are an initiative that commenced from the 2016.1 exam cycle and are aimed at providing more information about RACGP examinations, including feedback on questions.

# **RACGP Curriculum for Australian General Practice**

In preparation for the exams, candidates should consider the question: What is Australian general practice?

The RACGP *Curriculum for Australian General Practice* was written to act as a guide to the knowledge, skills and learning experiences necessary for competent unsupervised general practice. The curriculum domains and statement areas provide the basis for selection of exam questions and cases, so candidates find it useful to refer to the Curriculum to guide their exam preparation.

#### Exam preparation in the work setting

Training for general practice occurs in the practice setting, which is where preparation for the exams should also occur. The exams do not solely assess knowledge taken from books, but aim to assess how this knowledge is applied to everyday situations that occur in Australian general practice. The actual processes of patient care and doctors' attitudes are also important.

Candidates might find it helpful to invite a trusted colleague to spend time watching them consult, either in the practice or by video (such methods would require informed patient consent), and then asking for constructive feedback. Candidates can then become aware of their own performance in clinical situations and alter any aspects they consider appropriate. Performing well in actual practice makes it easier to translate these behaviours into the exam situations.

#### **Practice exams**

The RACGP offers practice exams for candidates enrolled in the AKT and KFP exam, which are provided in the lead-up to the exams. It is vital for candidates to attempt these practice exams in preparation for the AKT and KFP exam.

The practice exam enables candidates to become familiar with the process of the actual exam, and is designed to help them better understand the actual exam and how to structure answers, as well as outlining some common errors. The practice exam is structured in the same format as the actual exam, with half the number of items.

Cases have been selected from past exams to represent the common style of case and question structure.

Once a candidate has completed the practice exam, they can compare their results with the correct answers, and refer to additional information provided on the answer rationale, references and advice on common errors for each particular style of question.

### gplearning

*gplearning* is the RACGP's online portal that provides general practice education and is free to RACGP members with current member login.

Exam support online (ESO) modules give candidates the opportunity to learn about elements of the AKT and KFP exam.

Self-Assessment Progress Testing (SAPT) are available to support candidates studying for their exams. The SAPT is for AGPT, RVTS and FSP registrars to identify their learning needs, self-assess their progress in knowledge and clinical reasoning, experience exam question format and to assist them in written exam preparation.

You can find these and other online exam preparation modules on *gplearning* using your RACGP member login details.

# Continuing professional development (CPD)

Many activities that are promoted through the RACGP's CPD Program may also be useful to candidates preparing for the exams. Potentially useful activities include clinical audits, supervised clinical attachments, lectures, workshops, small-group learning, online learning programs and many more. Candidates interested in accessing these activities can visit the **RACGP website** for information on the CPD department in their state faculty or to search for activities.

### check

The RACGP's *check* program is a versatile self-education program and CPD activity that provides a range of cases written by expert clinicians. Each case includes a brief clinical scenario, followed by a series of questions designed to highlight the important issues for practitioners to consider in the clinical history, examination, investigation and/or management of a problem. Visit *check* for more information.

# Yagila Wadamba Program

A crucial focus for the RACGP is to develop the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workforce to assist in closing the gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous Australians' health outcomes.

As part of this commitment, RACGP Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health developed the Yagila Wadamba Program (meaning 'learn to heal'), an annual support program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander GPs in training.

The program concentrates on exam preparation and other key areas of GP training.

Visit Yagila Wadamba Program for more information.

Healthy Profession. Healthy Australia.

