

## CHANGES TO THE FRCR EXAMINATIONS

In May 2008, the Royal College of Radiologists published an announcement of a number of changes that it planned to make to the various components of the FRCR Examination. It was noted that these were subject to the consideration of the Postgraduate Medical Education and Training Board (PMETB). This document provides an update on progress. Candidates and their trainees will probably find it helpful to refer to the earlier document as this gives more detail about the nature of the changes. It should be noted, however, that there have been changes to the implementation dates and the information given in the earlier document is not now accurate.

### (1) First FRCR Examination

#### (a) Single Test of Physics Knowledge

The proposal that the entire physics component of the curriculum be covered by the First FRCR Examination, rather than being divided that and the Final FRCR Part A Examination, was formally presented to the PMETB on 30 June 2008 and received its approval. The new format First FRCR Examination will, therefore, be introduced at the Spring 2009 sitting. This has been widely announced and updated regulations, curriculum, guidance notes, specimen questions and FAQs have been published on the College's website.

#### (b) Test of Anatomy Knowledge

A formal proposal has not yet been prepared for the introduction of a second module to the First FRCR Examination to assess anatomy knowledge. It remains the plan to introduce this component at the Spring 2010 sitting. It is hoped that this proposal can be presented to the PMETB in early-2009.

### (2) Final FRCR Examination

#### (a) Electronic Rapid Reporting Session & Reporting Session

The proposal that the rapid reporting session of the Final FRCR Part B Examination be conducted electronically was formally presented to the PMETB on 30 June 2008 and received its approval. Subsequently, the PMETB also approved the proposal that the reporting session be conducted electronically. It had originally been planned to introduce the electronic rapid reporting session at the Spring 2009 sitting but this has proved impracticable. A revised introduction date, which might be for both reporting components, will be determined and published in due course.

#### (b) Single Best Answer Format Questions

The proposal that the single best answer (SBA) format of question be used for the Final FRCR Part A Examination was formally presented to the PMETB on 19 December 2008 and received its approval. It is hoped that this change can be made with effect from the Autumn 2009 sitting of the examination.