

Tips On How To Pass The RACP Written Exam



FRACPractice NZ

DISCLAIMER:

FRACPractice Limited is not affiliated with the Royal Australian College of Physicians nor does the college endorse any of this e-book's content. Any recommendation made in this e-book is purely based on our personal past experiences in preparing for this examination. The information provided in this e-book does not and is not intended to, constitute medical advice; instead, all information, content, and materials available in this e-book are for general informational purposes only. This e-book may also contain links to other third-party websites. Such links are only for the convenience of the reader and FRACPractice Limited does not endorse the contents of these third-party sites.

INTRODUCTION

The Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (FRACP) exam is a grueling assessment that medical professionals must pass to obtain specialist qualifications in Australia and New Zealand. The exam assesses the candidate's knowledge, clinical skills, and ability to apply this knowledge to real-world scenarios. It requires intense preparation, dedication, and focus.

The main focus of this e-book is to help candidates prepare for the Divisional Written Exam (DWE). It does not cover the second part of the exam known as the Divisional Clinical Examination (DCE).

THE WRITTEN EXAM FORMAT

As recent as 2023, the written exam is comprised of two papers designed to assess the candidates understanding of basic science and clinical knowledge. The paper consists of 170 multiple choice questions. Each correct answer is worth one mark. You will be marked out of 170 questions. No marks are deducted for incorrect answers.

Your examination score is the sum of the scores for each paper. It is not necessary for you to pass each paper separately. It is also worth noting that approximately 50 questions from recent exams will be re-used as 'marker' questions to compare the standard of cohorts from previous years. These questions will count towards your total mark.

As detailed in the RACP official website, the pass mark is determined by a panel of expert Fellows using the Modified Angoff method. The standard is set by estimating the minimum competency required. Based on this process, all questions are rated for difficulty by the experts and the cut-off score is determined as a composite of these ratings. Historically, the pass mark has been between 55 to 65 percent.

Key dates for the exam can be found on the RACP website. Please take note of these dates and ensure that you apply for the exam before the closing date.



TIPS ON HOW TO PASS THE RACP WRITTEN EXAM

So without further ado, here are some useful tips to help you pass this exam:

1. Familiarize yourself with the exam format and content:

Understanding the exam's format and content is essential to pass the RACP exam. It is important to review the FRACP exam format, which outlines the topics that are tested in the exam. The RACP pass rate varies from year to year but averages between 55 to 65 percent and this information is publicly available on the RACP website where you will find published past written examination results across Australasia dating back to 2016.

2. Strategically select your study resources:

Preparing for the RACP exam requires a meticulous and well-organized approach to gathering essential resources. Aspiring physicians must curate a comprehensive collection of study materials that encompass the breadth and depth of medical knowledge. This typically includes medical journals, medical textbooks, review guides and up-to-date clinical guidelines. For your reference, we have listed the Top 10 recommended books for the RACP written and clinical exam which we personally believe would serve you well towards your exam preparation.

In addition, online platforms offering interactive case studies, virtual simulations, and video lectures can also enrich your learning experience. Fortunately, RACP members can gain easy access to these learning resources simply by logging in to the RACP Online Learning Portal.



Tips On How To Pass The RACP Written Exam

3. Join an FRACP exam preparation course:

Joining an FRACP exam preparation course will help you prepare for the exam. These courses offer candidates an opportunity to review important concepts, learn exam-taking strategies, and practice with simulated exams. The instructors have a wealth of knowledge and experience in the field and can provide you with valuable insights and feedback.

4. Create a study schedule:

Creating a study schedule will help you stay on track and ensure that you cover all the topics before the exam. Allocate specific times for studying, revising, and practicing, and ensure that you adhere to the schedule.

5. Practice past papers and simulated exams:

Practicing past papers and simulated exams is an excellent way to improve your knowledge and exam-taking skills. It will help you identify your strengths and weaknesses and highlight areas that require more attention. You can access past papers and simulated exams on the RACP website or through your exam preparation course.

At FRACPractice, we have prepared over 1500 practice questions that cover themes the RACP have identified as weak areas for candidates with detailed explanations to help improve your learning experience.

6. Use mnemonics and memory aids:

Mnemonics and memory aids are an excellent way to remember complex concepts and facts. They are especially useful for remembering medical terminologies and pharmacological names and formulas. One such example is a website called Geeky Medics which contains a good range of medical mnemonics that could help build your muscle memory and recall.

Alternatively, you can create your own mnemonics or create digital flashcards using free websites such as Quizlet or Brainscape, so don't forget to check them out.

Tips On How To Pass The RACP Written Exam

7. Network with other candidates:

Networking with other RACP exam candidates is an excellent way to exchange information, share tips, and get emotional support. You can join social media groups such as Facebook, forums, or attend study groups to connect with other candidates. It will keep you motivated and help you stay accountable.

8. Take care of yourself:

Lastly, taking care of yourself is essential to perform at your best during the exam. Ensure that you get enough rest, exercise regularly, eat healthily, and stay hydrated. Taking breaks during study hours is also important to prevent burnout and maintain focus.

In conclusion, we would say that passing the RACP exam is definitely achievable but it requires a combination of hard work, dedication, and focus. Familiarizing yourself with the exam format, strategically selecting your study resources, joining an exam preparation course, creating a study schedule, practicing past papers and simulated exams, using mnemonics and memory aids, networking with colleagues and of course taking good care of yourself are all essential steps in helping you pass this exam.

Always remember to stay positive and believe in yourself, and you will succeed.

Copyright © 2023 FRACPractice NZ www.fracpractice.co.nz



Tips On How To Pass The RACP Written Exam