PAEDIATRIC RADIOLOGY FOR MRCPCH AND FRCR SECOND EDITION

Chris Schelvan, Annabel Copeman, Jacky Davis, Annmarie Jeanes and Jane Young. The Royal Society of Medicine Press. December 2009. Paperback 304pp. 27.50. ISBN: 978-1-85315-702-8.

This book is aimed at trainee paediatricians and radiologists preparing for membership and fellowship examinations. It is written by 4 consultant radiologists and 1 consultant paediatrician.

The initial image for each case is allocated a single page and could be used as viva practice.

106 radiology cases in a random order which keeps interest and a few words on the importance of non-accidental injury of the upper GI tract and lower male urinary tract, a few key renal nuclear medicine, an example of normal fluoroscopy, however there are also a few examples of other imaging modalities including fluoroscopy, CT, ultrasound, MRI and nuclear medicine. The answer to the questions on each case is provided on the following page with several key points on the physics of CT and MRI with some examples of normal anatomy of the chest, abdomen and brain, a reminder of the importance of radiation protection and patient safety and a few words on the importance of non-accidental injury to both paediatricians and radiologists. This is followed by subsequent modifications that followed the Tooke report. It goes on to describe the process of application for Specialty Training and gives practical, clear, easy to read, and step by step advice on how to fill in an application form for Specialty Training.

A section on the Specialty Training Interviews gives simple, brief and helpful outlines regarding the organisation of the National Health Service and approaches that could be taken when asked questions about audit, teaching and research.

The section on Specialty-specific questions is very good and is comprised of eleven Specialty-specific chapters. Each of these chapters gives an introduction to the Specialty; followed by examples of the skills and knowledge applicants would need to consider in order to demonstrate their commitment to that Specialty when completing the application form. Each of these chapters also give examples of the type of Specialty-specific questions a candidate for appointment might face at interview and provides candidates with a structured approach that they could use to formulate their answers.

The book finishes with two chapters on what happens next after the interviews. The first of these which gives a very brief introduction to the steps a successful candidate might expect ahead after entry into Specialty Training (workplace-based assessments, postgraduate examinations and Annual Reviews of Competence Progression). The second gives sensible steps an unsuccessful candidate can take to gain employment, review their options and to re-apply as well as suggesting other options for an unsuccessful candidate outside the National Health Service.

Overall the book is very well written and easy to read and gives a comprehensive and practical guide to the type of preparation necessary for success at interviews to enter Specialty Training.

Keith Gardiner,

GETTING INTO SPECIALTY TRAINING

Edited by PJ Smith, M Ramachandran, MA Gladman, The Royal Society of Medicine Press, 259 pages ISBN 978-1-85315-893-3, £ 18.95

This book is written for junior doctors approaching the change from Foundation Programme to Specialty Training. It gives a useful background to the changes in Specialty Training brought in by Modernising Medical Careers and subsequent modifications that followed the Tooke report. It goes on to describe the process of application for Specialty Training and gives practical, clear, easy to read, and step by step advice on how to fill in an application form for Specialty Training.

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