

Important Announcement

MRCPsych Part I Validity Period

Reference is made to the announcement published on 23 July 2010.

Further to the decision of the Education Training and Standards Committee (ETSC) on 21 July 2010, a sub-committee was convened to consider the decision in 2007 to limit the validity of the MRCPsych Part I and the impact of that decision on individual candidates and groups of candidates. The composition of the sub-committee comprised senior current and former College Officers; representatives from Council and the Examinations Sub-Committee; a representative from the Psychiatric Trainees Committee; a representative from the College's Service Users' Forum; a representative from the General Medical Council and a lay representative with expertise in postgraduate education.

The Sub-committee's recommendation was presented to the Education, Training & Standards Committee at its meeting on 20 October 2010, namely: All MRCPsych Part I holders will be subject to a validity period of 1643 days ("the MRCPsych Part I Validity Period"). MRCPsych Part I holders are permitted (within this 1643 day validity period) to bypass MRCPsych Papers 1 and 2 but are required to sit and pass MRCPsych Paper 3 prior to being eligible to attempt the MRCPsych CASC. After careful consideration the ETSC unanimously agreed to the recommendation presented.

Accordingly, MRCPsych Part I holders will be required to complete MRCPsych Paper 3 and the CASC within the MRCPsych Part I Validity Period. The MRCPsych Part I Validity Period will commence on the date of publication of the pass result for the MRCPsych Part I, the date of publication counting as day 1.

Those who fail to pass MRCPsych Paper 3 and the CASC within this period will be required to re-sit and pass Papers 1, 2 and 3 prior to being eligible to sit the MRCPsych CASC in accordance with the provisions set out in the document entitled '*Eligibility Criteria and Regulations for MRCPsych Written Papers and Clinical Assessment and Competencies (CASC)*'. This document is published on the Exams pages of the College website www.rcpsych.ac.uk.

This new regulation concerning the MRCPsych Part I Validity Period supersedes all previous regulations and notifications regarding the validity of any components of the MRCPsych examinations.

The College recognises that candidates may take time out for a period of time due to personal circumstances and that this may affect their ability to fulfil the training requirements and complete the MRCPsych within the stipulated timeframe. Part I holders who feel that they are affected by special personal circumstances are referred to the document entitled 'MRCPsych Eligibility Criteria & Regulations' where further details are provided regarding the possibility of applying for individual adjustments to the MRCPsych Part I Validity Period.

Part I holders are advised that it is their responsibility to keep abreast of developments about training and examinations through the College website and to inform the Examinations Unit in writing of any changes to contact details. The College will use its best endeavours to send a copy of this statement to all affected Part I holders whose identity and contact details are known to the College. However, the College does not have a complete list of affected Part I holders and accordingly it is not in a position to ensure that each affected candidate will receive personal notification. Further the College does not accept responsibility for misdirected or delayed communications due to incorrect or out of date addresses of candidates.

Professor Robert Howard, Dean

29 October 2010

Part I Result Publication Dates and Validity Periods

Part I Session	Final Results Published	1643 days from date of publication	MRCPsych Part I Validity Period
Spring 1998	21/05/1998	19 November 2002	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Autumn 1998	19/11/1998	20 May 2003	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Spring 1999	27/05/1999	25 November 2003	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Autumn 1999	18/11/1999	18 May 2004	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Spring 2000	24/05/2000	22 November 2004	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Autumn 2000	16/11/2000	17 May 2005	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Spring 2001	24/05/2001	22 November 2005	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Autumn 2001	09/11/2001	10 May 2006	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Spring 2002	17/05/2002	15 November 2006	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Autumn 2002	08/11/2002	09 May 2007	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Spring 2003	23/05/2003	21 November 2007	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Autumn 2003	07/11/2003	07 May 2008	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Spring 2004	21/05/2004	19 November 2008	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Autumn 2004	19/11/2004	20 May 2009	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Spring 2005	13/05/2005	11 November 2009	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Autumn 2005	14/11/2005	15 May 2010	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Spring 2006	15/05/2006	13 November 2010	Expired re-sit Papers 1, 2 & 3
Autumn 2006	10/11/2006	11 May 2011	Eligible for Paper 3/CASC
Spring 2007	14/05/2007	12 November 2011	Eligible for Paper 3/CASC
Autumn 2007	09/11/2007	09 May 2012	Eligible for Paper 3/CASC