

GPRO exam resources

Exam ready

To achieve Fellowship, you must first pass all your exams. Here are resources available to you, important information to consider, and helpful study tips.

Exam book

GPRO's General Practice Exam Book is aimed at preparation for RACGP's KFP and ATK exams. It contains practice questions, general preparation advice, tips, and important exam information. This book is authored, reviewed and edited by GPs and medical educators.

Clinical Cases

GPRO's Clinical Cases books are designed for group and self-study for your clinical exams. This book is authored, reviewed and edited by GPs and medical educators. Clinical Cases is recommended for those studying for RACGP's OSCE exam, and helpful for those studying for ACCRRM's StAMPS exam.

Webinars and free videos

GPRO regularly run free and low-cost webinars for members. We have a number of webinars available online. We also have a range of free videos online outlining sample exams questions and scenarios.

Events

GPRO run exam workshops throughout the year; to be the first to know about upcoming events, become a member and receive our eNewsletter. You can also follow us on social media.

Study partners

GPRO can help connect you with GP registrars searching for a study partner or looking to join a study group. A study partner or study group can help you gain a new perspective, keep your study on track, encourage you, and identify any learning gaps.

Find a study partner here gpra.org.au/studypartners

Visit our website

There are more free exam resources on our website. For more details, visit gpra.org.au/exams



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GPRO is independent from your practice, Regional Training Organisation (RTO) and college. If you encounter issues with your training or employment, GPRO can provide you with independent, confidential advice.



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Remember...

About the exams

Both medical colleges have different sets of exams, but generally, each college has a written exam and a clinical exam.

Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM)

- Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) — usually held August and March each year.
- Structured Assessment using Multiple Patient Scenarios (StAMPS) — usually held May and October each year.

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)

- Applied Knowledge Test (AKT) and the Key Feature Problem (KFP) — usually held February and July and each year.
- Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE) — usually held May and November each year.

Before you sit your exams:

- you can only sit exams a limited number of times
- if you are not sure if you are ready to sit an exam, talk to your medical educator and/or supervisor
- allow yourself at least six to 12 months study time
- there are some prerequisites to exams, for example, you can't sit the OSCE if you haven't passed the AKT/KFP
- you must enrol if you want to sit an exam — don't miss the enrolment deadlines
- exam enrolment fees can start at \$1,400 and cost up to \$4,600
- there will likely be additional costs; many GP registrars choose to purchase their own exam resources, sit mock exams, or complete a pre-exam course
- your Regional Training Organisations (RTO) is there to help you prepare for your exams; remember to attend their workshops, do pre-reading, and use the online learning platforms offered
- comprehensive courses, while often expensive and time consuming, are available and may be suitable for those not affiliated with an RTO.



Study tips

Keep these key people in the loop

Talk to your medical educator — they can advise you on both the best time to sit your exams and if they think you are ready.

Before enrolling, discuss your exam plans with your practice manager to ensure that you will be able to take study leave or have your on-call time reduced. Over an exam period, avoid additional hours such as covering for other GPs on leave.

Once enrolled, discuss your study plans with your supervisor as they can help you in the exam preparation process. This could mean adjusting the number of patients you see per hour so there is sufficient time to review relevant resources after each consult. Many supervisors are also happy to run through practice exam questions during dedicated teaching time, especially OSCE or StAMPS cases.

Develop a study plan

When you've sorted out your exam dates, sit down and make a rough plan of how to tackle your study. Break your study down into achievable blocks. Don't forget the importance of a good study space that minimises distractions.

Prioritise topics wisely

Focus on your bread-and-butter clinical cases and know these inside out; don't get bogged down studying sub-speciality level details. Next, focus on the serious, not-to-be-missed disorders and know these to a level of safe competence. John Murtagh's General Practice book and the Bettering the Evaluation and Care of Health (BEACH) data are good sources to consult when formulating a list of topics you need to cover. Focus on your weaknesses in your study time.

Be an active learner

Ensure your study includes practice questions and other forms of active learning. Sitting and reading may be an easy option after a hard day of work, but retention is much higher if you must actively recall, process and apply the material you have learnt. Your everyday practice will provide the best opportunities to prepare for your exams. Look up guidelines for the conditions you are seeing and apply them to your patients.

Make use of all resources available to you

There are many resources available, including: podcasts, online question banks, your medical college's resources, official clinical guidelines, books, webinars, and exam preparation workshops. While you may be able to find previous exam papers and past questions online, keep in mind that question styles and guidelines have changed over time.

Join (or start) a study group

Many registrars find a study group is particularly helpful for the OSCE or StAMPS exams. Once you are through the written exams you should have the key knowledge areas down-pat; this is the time to practise and smooth your OSCE or StAMPS "performance" techniques. Getting a feel for the timing of each station becomes crucial; the more cases you practise under exam conditions, the better you will become.

Find a study partner online gpra.org.au/studypartners

Take care of yourself – now more than ever

It is important to get enough sleep, drink water, eat well, exercise regularly and have enough relaxation time. There is support available if you feel overwhelmed. See your own GP, chat to your Registrar Liaison Officer (RLO), medical college, supervisors and your RTO.

For more information, see gpra.org.au/wellbeing