

RCSI SUPPORTING YOUR SURGICAL CAREER



**RCSI**

ROYAL  
COLLEGE  
OF SURGEONS  
IN IRELAND



# MRCS EXAMINATIONS

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL  
COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND



SCAN TO  
LEARN MORE



[rcsi.com/mrcs](https://rcsi.com/mrcs)

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## INTRODUCTION



The intercollegiate membership examinations of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland is a measure of surgical competence at an early stage in a surgeons career in training. For many generations of surgeons, taking the MRCS examination is seen as an internationally recognised benchmark of the standard reached by a surgeon. Over the years the exam has been reviewed and is kept up to date with the expected standard of practice of early career surgeons, setting them on a pathway

towards their chosen surgical specialty. RCSI is an internationally recognised leader in the delivery of surgical education and training. Choosing RCSI for your membership is a great honor for our college and we pride ourselves in being a supportive college and fostering a community of RCSI members and fellows.

In choosing RCSI as you prepare for your MRCS examination, we have provided a range of educational and preparative supports for you. We want to give you every opportunity to pass the examination in your first attempt. In addition to the on-line preparation supports, we also deliver a number of examination preparation courses where we utilise our data on where examinees need most support. Our aim is to get the best from you during the examination. RCSI analyses all aspects of the exam and we tailor our supports accordingly.

Becoming a Member of RCSI is an internationally recognised mark of achievement in your surgical career to date. It will give employers, regulators and senior colleagues confidence in your abilities as a surgeon. I am most grateful for your choosing RCSI and it is a great privilege for us to support you in your surgical career and we welcome you to the RCSI surgical community.

### **Mr Kieran Ryan**

Managing Director, Surgical Affairs,  
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

“ Becoming a Member of RCSI is an internationally recognised mark of achievement in your surgical career to date. It will give employers, regulators and senior colleagues confidence in your abilities as a surgeon. ”

**Mr Kieran Ryan**

Managing Director, Surgical Affairs,  
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland



## WHAT IS THE MRCS AND WHY TAKE IT?

The intercollegiate MRCS exam is one of the most well-known surgical qualifications in the world. Passing the exam showcases a level of knowledge, experience and competence needed to progress in your surgical career.



### USE OF THE POST-NOMINALS MRCS



### INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED BENCHMARK IN SURGERY



### GLOBAL NETWORKS and INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY



### RESOURCES and SUPPORTS

- Join an RCSI community of over 11,000 surgical Fellows and Members, practising in 86 countries worldwide
- Access to our online portal with training resources and e-journals including The Surgeon, Annals of Surgery, Elsevier journal, Lib Guides and surgical skills guides, institutional repositories and a wealth of information through our Library services
- A dedicated Affiliate Membership newsletter published quarterly
- Access to the biannual Surgeons Scope magazine



### STUDY SUPPORTS

- Support and study resources as you undertake your MRCS Exams
- 20% discount Cambridge University Press
- 15% discount Pastest
- Free Access to TeachMe Surgery and TeachMe Anatomy



### CAREER DEVELOPMENT

- Access to RCSI events and networking opportunities
- CPD Credit opportunities
- Opportunities to Volunteer and contribute to RCSI
- Access to a closed LinkedIn Networking Group
- Highlights your dedication and commitment to the profession

SCAN FOR LIST OF BENEFITS



## WHY TAKE THE MRCS EXAMINATIONS WITH RCSI?

The Intercollegiate MRCS exam provides you with a globally – recognised quality mark in surgery.

There are a number of career benefits to sitting this exam with RCSI:



**Access to free, comprehensive MRCS preparation resources.**



**15% off Pastest MRCS Part A and B OSCE resources.**



**MRCS Part B OSCE preparation course.**



**Access to additional courses and workshops**



**Access to RCSI events and networking opportunities**



**Free access to our new Affiliate Membership programme.**



**Free Access to TeachMe Surgery and TeachMe Anatomy**

Affiliate Membership of RCSI will provide you with exclusive access to a range of 'member-only' services aimed at supporting and supplementing your personal, practical, academic and professional development to expand your knowledge of the surgical profession, help you stay engaged in what's happening in the field of surgery by providing access to RCSI communications channels, surgical publications and resources and global networking opportunities.



**SCAN HERE  
TO WATCH  
OUR MRCS  
ONLINE**

## MRCS AT A GLANCE

The intercollegiate MRCS Part A is a written paper using multiple choice questions (MCQs) and Part B is an objective structured clinical examination (OSCE).

The MRCS Part A examination uses single best answer MCQs designed to test knowledge of both applied basic science and principles of surgery in general.

The MRCS Part B OSCE tests candidates in the sections below:



Anatomy and surgical pathology



Applied surgical science and critical care



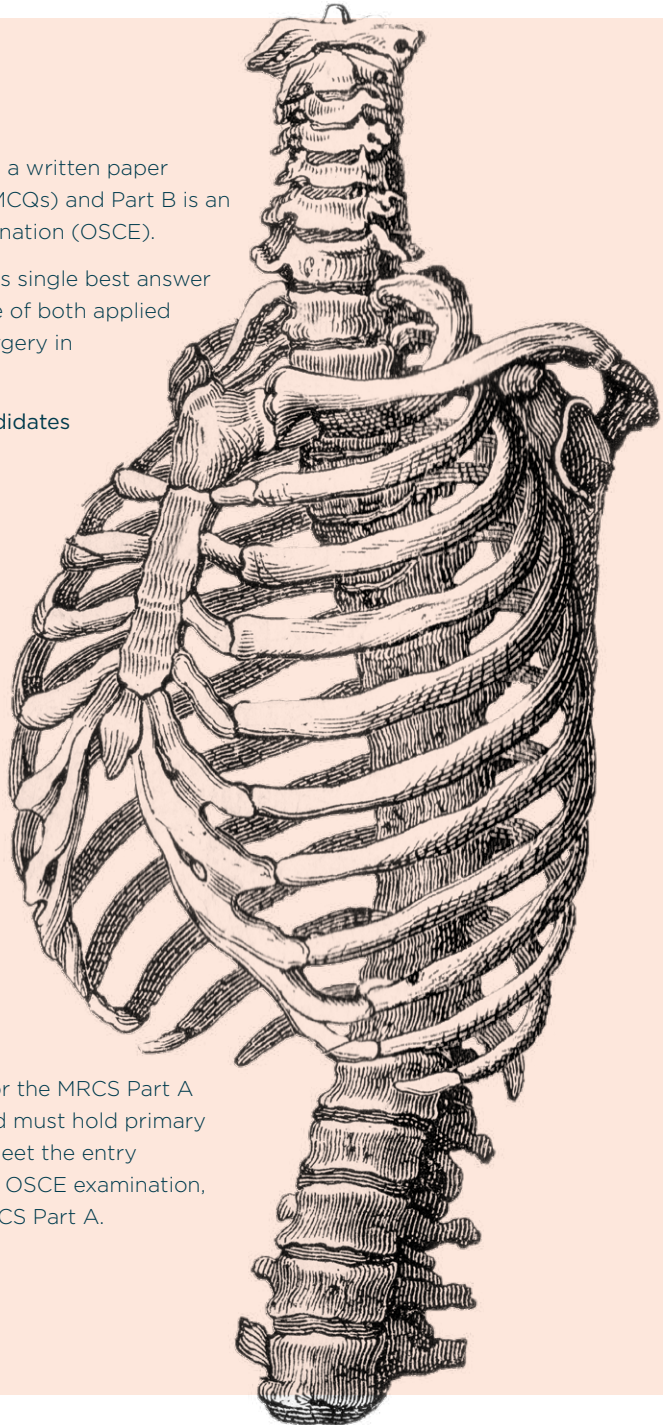
Clinical and procedural skills

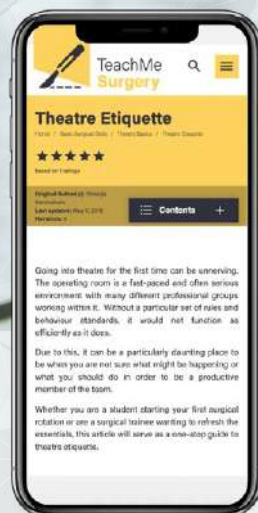


Communication skills

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

To meet the entry requirements for the MRCS Part A examination, candidates must hold a primary medical degree qualification. To meet the entry requirements for the MRCS Part B OSCE examination, candidates must first pass the MRCS Part A.





## TEACHME SURGERY AND ANATOMY

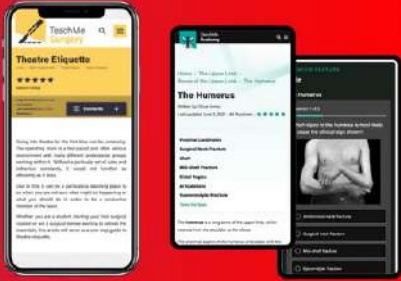
TeachMe Series which will provide MRCS candidates sitting MRCS Part A with RCSI free access to TeachMe Surgery and TeachMe Anatomy (including both question banks with over 2000+ MCQs combined).

## TEACHME

Benefits for MRCS Part A candidates sitting the exam with RCSI include:

### TEACHME ANATOMY

- 1000 MCQs, covering all aspects of anatomy
- Progress tracker, individual quiz builder
- Access to 100+ dissection illustrations and 300 + 3D models

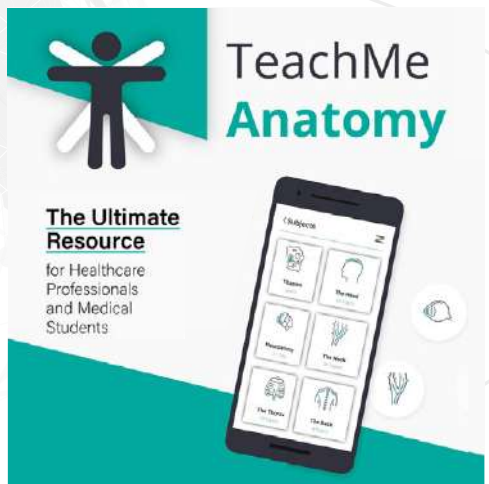


**TeachMe Surgery**

- 1000 MCQs, mapped to the MRCS Part A Curriculum
- Progress tracker, individual quiz builder, x2 full MRCS Part A Mock Papers
- Advert-free browsing across the rest of the website

**TeachMe Anatomy**

- 1000 MCQs, covering all aspects of anatomy
- Progress tracker, individual quiz builder
- Access to 100+ dissection illustrations and 300 + 3D models

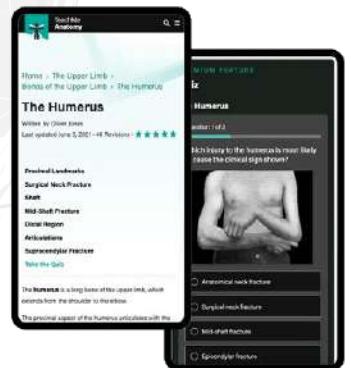


**TeachMe Anatomy**

**The Ultimate Resource**  
for Healthcare Professionals and Medical Students

### TEACHME SURGERY

- 1000 MCQs, mapped to the MRCS Part A Curriculum
- Progress tracker, individual quiz builder, x2 full MRCS Part A Mock Papers
- Advert-free browsing across the rest of the website



**TeachMe Surgery**

**The Humerus**

Updated by Simon Jones  
Last updated June 5, 2021 • 48 Questions • ★★★★★

**Relevant anatomy**

- Surgical Neck Fracture
- Distal
- Mid Shaft Fracture
- Clavicle Region
- Proximal humerus
- Suprascapular Fracture
- Not the Girdle

**The Humerus** is a long bone of the upper limb, which extends from the shoulder to the elbow.

The proximal end of the humerus articulates with the

**Relevant features**

- Anatomical neck fracture
- Surgical neck fracture
- Mid shaft fracture
- Epiphyseal fracture

\*Candidates taking the MRCS with RCSI will receive access to TeachMe Surgery and Teach Anatomy after the closing date.



## MRCS - PART A

MRCS Part A of the MRCS is a five-hour MCQ examination consisting of a three-hour paper (Applied Basic Science) followed by a two-hour paper (Principles of Surgery in General), taken on the same day.

The Applied Basic Science paper will consist of 180 questions and the Principles of Surgery in General will consist of 120 questions. The papers cover generic surgical sciences and applied knowledge, including the core knowledge required in all 10 specialties, as follows:

- 1. Paper 1 Applied Basic Science**
- 2. Paper 2 Principles of Surgery in General**

# A

## MRCS - PART A

### PEARSON VUE CENTRES

The MRCS Part A is delivered via computer-based testing centres in partnership with Pearson VUE in over 165 countries including Ireland, UK, Egypt, Bahrain, Jordan, India, Pakistan, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia and more!

All candidates must book their test centre seat within the dedicated schedule window for each diet. The College will notify candidates of this schedule window and you will receive an email from Pearson VUE on the day when the test schedule window opens.

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
SCAN HERE

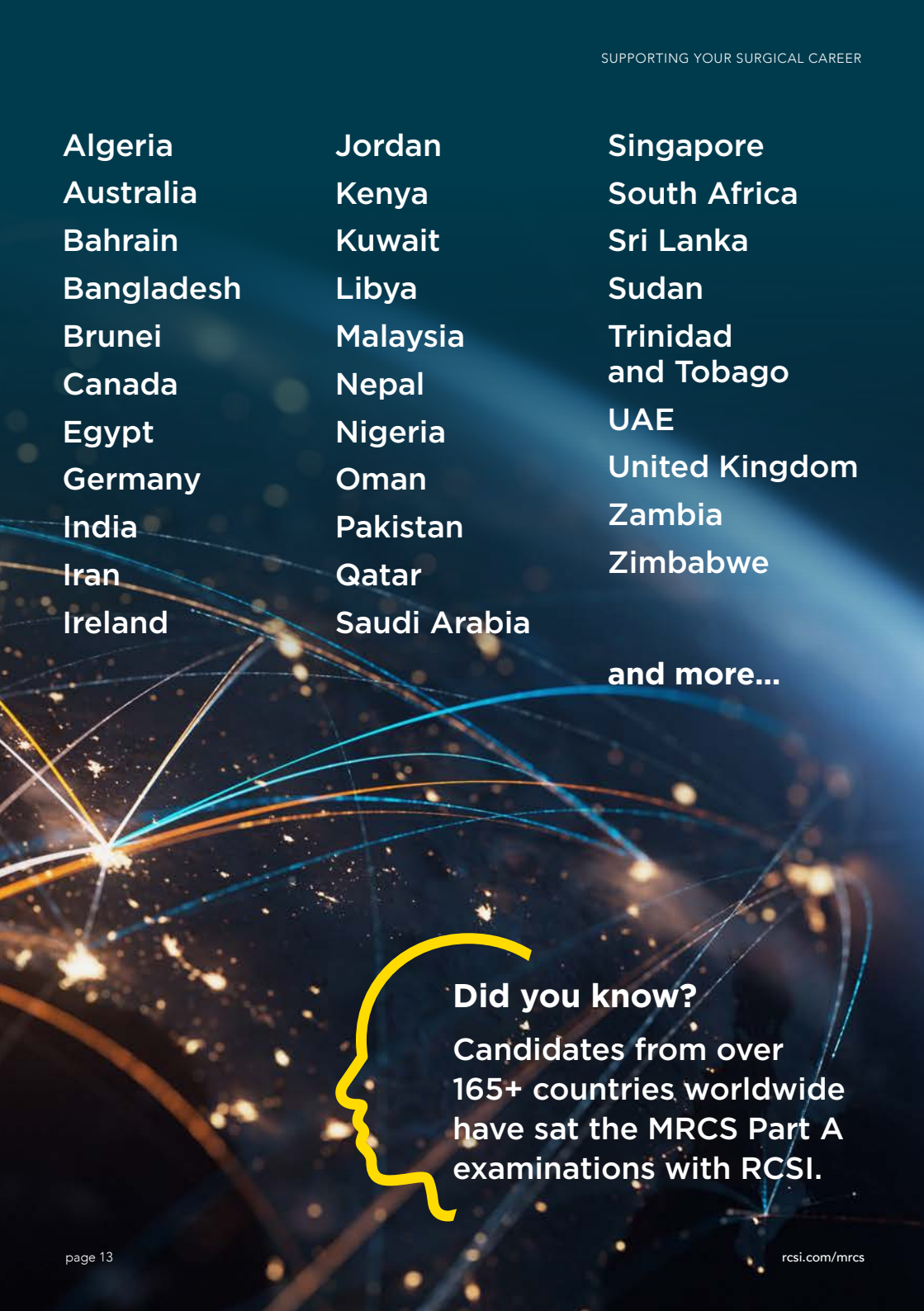


### HOW TO APPLY FOR MRCS PART A?

If you wish to apply to sit the MRCS part A with RCSI you must make an online application. You will be required to upload your medical degree in English, a form of ID such as passport or driving license and a photo of yourself on to the portal. You will also be required to complete payment of exam fees.

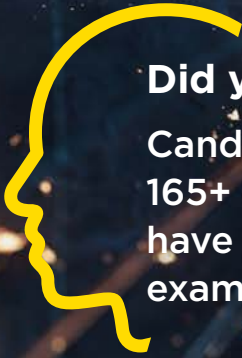


# **WHERE HAVE OUR CANDIDATES SAT THE MRCS PART A EXAMINATIONS**



|            |              |                        |
|------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Algeria    | Jordan       | Singapore              |
| Australia  | Kenya        | South Africa           |
| Bahrain    | Kuwait       | Sri Lanka              |
| Bangladesh | Libya        | Sudan                  |
| Brunei     | Malaysia     | Trinidad<br>and Tobago |
| Canada     | Nepal        | UAE                    |
| Egypt      | Nigeria      | United Kingdom         |
| Germany    | Oman         | Zambia                 |
| India      | Pakistan     | Zimbabwe               |
| Iran       | Qatar        |                        |
| Ireland    | Saudi Arabia |                        |

and more...



### Did you know?

Candidates from over  
165+ countries worldwide  
have sat the MRCS Part A  
examinations with RCSI.



## MRCS - PART B OSCE

The MRCS Part B OSCE comprises 17 examined stations. OSCEs comprise a series of stations in a circuit around which the candidates rotate.

At each station the candidate is required to undertake a clearly defined task. In the MRCS OSCE these may include taking a focused history or clinical examination, interpreting an X-ray or performing a practical procedure in simulation.

# B

## MRCS - PART B OSCE

The individual stations are grouped into two broad content areas  
These are:

### KNOWLEDGE (8 Stations)

- 3 surgical anatomy stations
- 2 surgical pathology stations
- 3 applied surgical science and critical care stations
  - ~ 1 generic critical care
  - ~ 1 generic interpretation of written data
  - ~ 1 generic interpretation of visual information

### SKILLS (9 Stations)

- 4 communication skills stations
  - ~ 2 generic history taking
  - ~ 1 generic giving information to a patient/ relative
  - ~ 1 generic giving information to another health professional
- 5 clinical and procedural skills stations
  - 3 physical examination
  - 2 generic skills

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
SCAN HERE



## HOW DO I APPLY TO MRCS PART B?

If you wish to apply to sit the MRCS part B with RCSI you must make an online application. You will be required to upload formal letter for passing MRCS part A, your medical degree in English, a form of ID, such as passport or driving license, and a photo of yourself. You will also be required to complete payment of exam fees.

## PLANNING YOUR MRCS JOURNEY WITH RCSI

### Medical Graduate

and has completed Internship:  
Candidates need to have their Primary Medical Degree and have finished their Internship in full in order to apply.

### Passing Part A

RCSI has partnered with Pastest to offer a 15% discount for MRCS Revision resources.

01



02



03



04



### Applying for Part A

You are required to select a Test Centre for Part A, this is done approximately 8 weeks before the date of the actual exam. A 'booking window' will open and accepted candidates will then be invited to select their Test Centre.

### Applying for Part B

You have 4 attempts to complete MRCS Part B - candidates must pass MRCS Part B no more than seven years after passing MRCS Part A.

### Applying for OSCE Prep Course

RCSI offers a two-day intensive course designed to prepare you for the MRCS Part B (OSCE) exam.

05



06



07



### Applying to work in Ireland or abroad

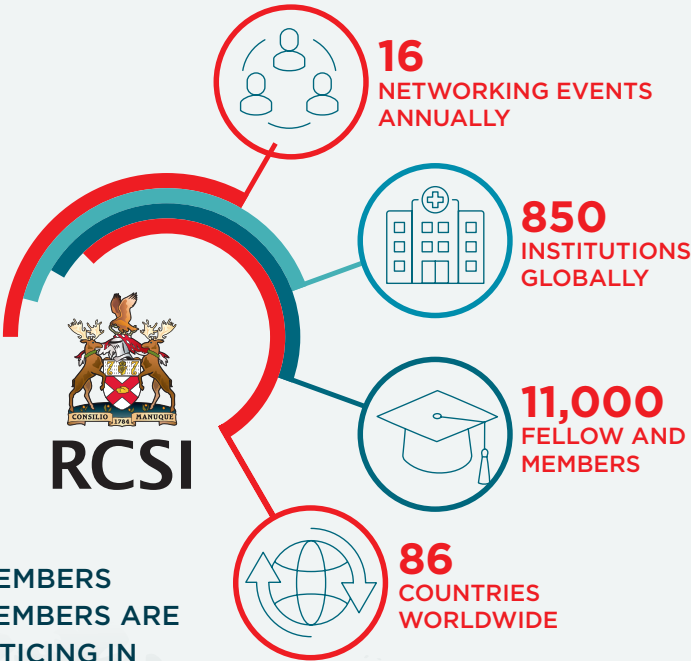
RCSI fellows and members are living and practicing in Ireland and worldwide

## Supporting Your Surgical Career

### Passing Part B

Please note you can not apply to sit the MRCS Part B OSCE when you have results outstanding.

# OUR RCSI COMMUNITY



RCSI FELLOWS, MEMBERS  
AND AFFILIATE MEMBERS ARE  
LIVING AND PRACTICING IN  
**89 COUNTRIES** WORLDWIDE.



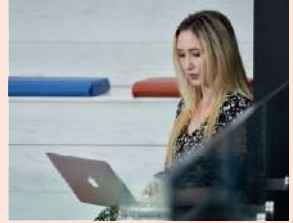
## THE BENEFITS OF BEING AN RCSI MEMBER



Bespoke Membership  
Portal



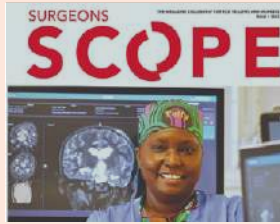
PCS Discount



Access to a Library of  
Academic Journals and  
Exam Support



Bimonthly Surgical Journals



Surgeons Scope Magazine



Make a Significant  
Contribution in Mentoring  
and Teaching



Course Discounts



RCSI Travel and Discounted  
Parking



Up to 40% Discounted  
Venue Hire for College  
Facilities

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
SCAN HERE



## TESTIMONIALS FROM RCSI MEMBERS AND MRCS CANDIDATES



“ From pre-exam webinars to MRCS-specific preparatory courses, I would not hesitate to recommend RCSI as the go-to establishment to prepare for and sit the MRCS examinations. ”

**Dr Amanda O'Halloran**

RCSI Member



“ Achieving the MRCSI as a young surgeon really elevated my career, demonstrating a commitment to scholarly activity, surgical credibility and a pursuit of excellence. ”

**Dr Nicolas J. Mouawad**

Chief of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery;  
Vice-Chair Department of Surgery and Chair,  
Cardiovascular Research Council at McLaren Bay  
Region, Bay City, Michigan

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
SCAN HERE



## MRCS RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS

RCSI is committed to supporting surgeons in training all over the world pass the MRCS exams.

Through our suite of exam supports and resources, candidates sitting the MRCS exams with RCSI are supported throughout their exam preparation period.

### AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

Affiliate Membership of RCSI offers access to a comprehensive range of resources supporting candidates looking to complete the MRCS exams. Candidates sitting the MRCS Part A exam with RCSI will receive a free one-year access to our full Affiliate Membership suite of resources.

#### Resources include:

- ~ Access to surgical anatomy resources such as surface anatomy and dissection guide
- ~ 20% discount off Cambridge University Press
- ~ 15% discount on Pastest MRCS resources
- ~ Access to exam specific Elsevier journals
- ~ SurgiQuiz
- ~ Surgical kills and science videos and support guides
- ~ Access to online courses

### PATEST DISCOUNT – 15%

RCSI also partners with Pastest – a leading provider of revision resources for the MRCS exams – to offer discounted access to their resources. All applicants sitting MRCS Part A and Part B with RCSI are entitled to a 15% discount off the Pastest online subscription. Candidates will receive their Pastest discount code once applications have closed.

**MRCS Part A** subscription provides access to over **3,600 MRCS Part A SBA practice questions, helpful media resources and a free app**

**MRCS Part B** subscription offers helpful detailed lectures, demonstration videos and case studies

## MRCS RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS

### MRCS PART B PREPARATION COURSE

Due to the limited number of attempts for MRCS Part B, RCSI offers a two-day intensive course designed to prepare surgical trainees for the MRCS Part B (OSCE) exam.

This course is run three times a year in Ireland, and covers the content of the exam through mock OSCEs, interactive workshops and group discussions in applied surgery/critical care, clinical/procedural skills, anatomy/surgical pathology and communications.

Please note that our MRCS Part B preparation course has a limited number of places. Candidates can apply to undertake the MRCS Part B OSCE Prep Course.

### TEACHME

TeachMe Series which will provide MRCS candidates sitting MRCS Part A with RCSI free access to TeachMe Surgery and TeachMe Anatomy (including both question banks with over 2000+ MCQs combined).

Benefits for MRCS Part A candidates sitting the exam with RCSI include:

#### TeachMe Anatomy

- 1000 MCQs, covering all aspects of anatomy
- Progress tracker, individual quiz builder
- Access to 100+ dissection illustrations and 300 + 3D models

#### TeachMe Surgery

- 1000 MCQs, mapped to the MRCS Part A Curriculum
- Progress tracker, individual quiz builder, x2 full MRCS Part A Mock Papers
- Advert-free browsing across the rest of the website



**RCSI**

# DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS IN RELATION TO EITHER OUR MRCS PART A OR PART B EXAMINATION?

Scan the QR code to see our  
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)  
section on the RCSI website.

For any specific queries, please visit  
[rcsi.com/mrcs](https://rcsi.com/mrcs) or email [mrcsexams@rcsi.ie](mailto:mrcsexams@rcsi.ie)

Follow us on our key social media channels:



RCSI Membership Examinations



RCSI Surgery



@RCSI\_CPD



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**RCSI**

Coláiste Ríoga na Máinleá in Éirinn

123 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, D02 YN77, Ireland

[www.rcsi.com/mrcs](http://www.rcsi.com/mrcs)