

## MRCPUK Diploma examination in Saudi Arabia

For doctors in training or those seeking employment in Saudi Arabia if you require information regarding the status of the MRCPUK Diploma examination in Saudi Arabia please refer to the comprehensive document *Guideline of Professional Classification and Registration For Health Practitioners* which is available on the Saudi Council for Health Specialties (SCHS) website:

<http://www.scfhs.org.sa/en/registration/ClassAndRegister/Reregister/Documents/Professional%20Classification%20manual%20for%20Health%20Practitioners.pdf>

This document confirms that MRCPUK remains one of a number of qualifications that are taken into consideration in the process of appointment to registrar, senior registrar and consultant posts in Saudi Arabia. As such, it is incorrect to state that MRCPUK is no longer recognised for such purposes in Saudi Arabia.

However, in line with developing regulatory and employment criteria in many countries in the world, including the UK, the SCHS require a period of accredited training *in addition* to successful completion of a recognised qualification such as MRCPUK. Accredited training that is recognised by the SCHS is available through a number of channels in Saudi Arabia and other countries, including the UK via the Medical Training Initiative (MTI) (<http://www.aomrc.org.uk/mti/medical-training-initiative.html>).

We do appreciate that opportunities to access UK MTI places are currently limited but the three UK Royal Colleges of Physicians are all working to develop this scheme and furthermore, are currently actively exploring alternative mechanisms by which medical training may be accredited, on a prospective or retrospective basis.

Finally, we understand that some criteria for appointments at registrar grade in Saudi Arabia are at the discretion of the employing authority or hospital, and some such posts may be accessible in the absence of accredited training, provided MRCPUK or similar has been obtained.