



The Royal College of Anaesthetists

Frequently Asked Questions:

- 1. I have not passed the Primary FRCA but passed the Irish Primary examination *before* the 1 April 2015. Can I still use my pass in the Irish Primary as an exemption from the Primary FRCA as part eligibility to the Final FRCA exams?**

Yes, providing you passed the Irish Primary or MCAI examination in Ireland and the date you passed the Irish Primary or MCAI exam is less than 7 years from the date of the Final FRCA exam you are applying for.
- 2. I have already used my six attempts at the Primary FRCA OSCE/SOE. Am I eligible for further attempts because of this change?**

No. The number of attempts for all FRCA examinations has been set at a maximum of six in line with the GMC'S recommendation.
- 3. I passed my Primary FRCA MCQ exam over three years ago and I have failed the Primary FRCA OSCE/SOE three times. I was planning to take the MCAI in the second half of 2015. However, because of this change, I am now considering re-sitting the Primary OSCE/SOE. Do I have to re-sit the Primary FRCA MCQ?**

The validity of the Primary FRCA MCQ is three years, so under normal circumstances you would have to re-sit the Primary MCQ in order to gain eligibility for the Primary FRCA OSCE/SOE. However, as this change may have forced you to re-consider attempting the Primary FRCA OSCE/SOE, you could apply for an extension of the validity of your MCQ under the exceptional circumstances rule. Decisions will be made by the examinations chairman on a case by case basis. You should contact the Examinations Manager for further details.