



# Orthopaedic Multiple Choice Question (OMCQ) Test Information – 2026 Intake

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## KEY EXAMINATION INFORMATION

### Key Dates:

- Registration – 19 February to 26 February 2025
- Test Date – 15 March 2025

**Test Fee:** \$250

### Venues

City	Local Start Time
Cairns	1pm
Brisbane	1pm
Sydney	2pm
Melbourne	2pm
Hobart	2pm
Adelaide	1.30pm
Perth	10.30am

Modifications and adjustments may be necessary in response to exceptional circumstances or events beyond the AOAs control. In such instances, applicants registered for the Test will be advised as soon as is reasonably practical

### Registration

Applicants will receive an email inviting them to register for their preferred test location. Applicants will register directly with the testing centre.

## PURPOSE AND CONTENT OF THE TEST

The OMCQ will assess an applicant's orthopaedic and clinical knowledge, and professional skills.

Knowledge level for the OMCQ will be targeted at the level of a well performing unaccredited orthopaedic registrar who is ready to commence training.

The OMCQ will cover orthopaedic knowledge and clinical scenarios an unaccredited orthopaedic registrar can expect to encounter in their daily work. The MCQs will be either True-False type (a lead-in question with 4 options, each to be marked true or false), or Single-Best-Answer (a clinical scenario with a lead-in question and 4 options from which to choose the most appropriate response).

True-false questions will test

- Basic science & pathophysiology
- Treatment of common surgical conditions;
- Surgical approaches & anatomy;
- Basic fracture management;
- Principles for management of trauma.

Single-best answer questions may address any of the AOA 21 Competencies including:

- Communication
- Teamwork and Conflict Management
- Professionalism
- Leadership and Organisational Skills
- Advocacy
- Education and Research
- Medical and Surgical Expertise

Applicants may wish to review the JDocs [PGY3 Competencies](#) for reference. An unaccredited registrar who is ready to commence training, is expected to perform at or above this level.

The best preparation for the OMCQ is your on-the-job experience.

## **ELIGIBILITY TO PRESENT FOR THE TEST**

In order to be eligible to present for the OMCQ:

- Applicants must have registered with RACS as per clause 4.1 of the *Regulations for Selection to the AOA 21 Training Program in Orthopaedic Surgery for 2026*
- Applicants must have made an application to AOA as per clause 5 of the *Regulations for Selection to the AOA 21 Training Program in Orthopaedic Surgery for 2026*
- It is the applicant's responsibility to make the appropriate travel arrangements and to meet any costs incurred in attending the OMCQ.

## **TEST STRUCTURE**

The OMCQ:

- Will be a single test paper with 50 multiple choice questions
- Will be scored out of a total of 100 marks
- Will run for 75 minutes

Where a manifest error is identified in a question after the OMCQ and prior to the release of the results, that question will be removed from the scoring and the total marks for the OMCQ, and any reference to the total marks, will be adjusted accordingly. A manifest error is an error that is obvious and indisputable.

Each question will be worth 2 marks

## EXAMPLE OF QUESTION TYPES

### True-False question example:

In the Henry approach to the anterior compartment of the forearm, an internervous plane lies between which of the following muscles:

- i. Brachioradialis and pronator teres
- ii. Pronator teres and flexor carpi radialis
- iii. Flexor carpi radialis and flexor carpi ulnaris
- iv. Flexor carpi ulnaris and flexor digitorum superficialis

i., iii. and iv. are correct, with each muscle supplied by a different nerve. ii. is incorrect as both muscles are supplied by the median nerve

### Single-Best-Answer example:

An 80-year-old man is brought to an emergency department by ambulance on a Saturday afternoon following a fall at his nursing home. An xray reveals that he has a fractured neck of femur. He is awake but disoriented to time and place. Few details of his general health are known. His next of kin is his only daughter who is uncontactable, and there is no recorded advance care directive or enduring power of attorney. The ED consultant asks for your advice about management.

How will you proceed?

- A. Obtain consent from the patient to proceed with surgical fixation of the fracture
- B. Delay the surgery until consent can be obtained from the daughter
- C. Proceed with surgery as an emergency situation not requiring consent
- D. Recommend palliative care in view of his age and nursing home status

A is incorrect as he is not competent to give consent. B is the most appropriate answer as a fractured NOF is not a surgical emergency, and palliation should only be chosen with full understanding of his clinical condition, pre-morbid functional status and the wishes of his family.

## OMCQ RULES OF CONDUCT

Applicants will be provided with instructions for attending and completing the OMCQ following registration.

## TEST RESULTS

There is no minimum score required on the OMCQ to be eligible to continue in the Selection process.

OMCQ scores will be combined with Departmental Referee Report Scores as outlined in clause 10 of the *Regulations for Selection to the AOA 21 Training Program in Orthopaedic Surgery for 2026*.

Applicants will not be provided with their score or a copy of the test paper.

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

Please refer to clause 6.9 of the *Regulations for Selection to the AOA 21 Training Program in Orthopaedic Surgery for 2026* for information on applications for Special Consideration.