GLOSSARY OF CONVENTIONAL TERMS

Every effort is made to ensure that the wording of questions is as clear and unambiguous as possible. For the purposes of the examination, certain conventional terms have the following meanings:

Timing of Intervention

Immediate	within 3 hours
Urgent	within 24 hours

Terminology

Characteristically, classically, predominantly and reliably:	Imply that a feature would occur in at least 90% of cases
Typically, frequently, commonly and usually	Imply that a feature would occur in at least 60% of cases
Often and tends to:	Imply that a feature would occur in at least 30% of cases
Has been shown, associated, recognised, treatment of choice, optimally, adequately and features which may present or may be caused by:	Refer to evidence which can be found in a modern authoritative source about the frequency with which the feature occurs
Figures	
When figures are given in the context of	For axample, the figure of 30% does not imply

When figures are given in the context of epidemiology, round figures are to be treated as approximations and precise figures as exact values For example, the figure of 30% does not imply exactly 30% but approximately 30% to within 5% either way. Conversely, the figure of 2% would mean that precisely this amount is indicated

Intercollegiate Specialty Boards MCQ Guidelines