

A Brief Guide to Core Medical Training in Wales - 2010

Throughout this document, hypertext links, underlined and in blue, will take you to the relevant web pages and documents which you can download if you wish

Core Medical Training (CMT) is managed by the Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board ([JRCPTB](#)), responding to the requirements of the General Medical Council ([GMC](#)). Enrolment with JRCPTB is mandatory under MMC regulations, but there may be benefits in doing so through Collegiate Membership of one of the Medical Royal Colleges. These fees fund the running of the Board including the production of CCT certificates.

New CMT regulations came into force in 2009 and trainees starting in August 2010 need to work to these new regulations. Key documents are:-

- (1) The MMC Guide to Specialty Training - the [Gold Guide 2010](#) - contains guidance regarding the organisation of CMT.
- (2) The [Specialty Training Curriculum for General Internal Medicine - August 2009](#). This contains the curricula for both Core and Specialist Training in General Internal Medicine (GIM). In addition to the Symptom Based Competencies, there are Common Competencies which comprise the knowledge, skills and behaviours required by all physicians to practise effectively. Core Medical Trainees should achieve competence in the Common Competencies to level 2 descriptors

(3) Assessment

The [MRCP\(UK\)](#) examination is the knowledge based assessment of CMT and trainees will need to have passed all parts of this examination to successfully complete CMT

Training and the acquisition of competencies, is assessed by [workplace based assessments](#) (WPBAs) created by the JRCPTB. These comprise the Acute Care Assessment Tool ([ACAT](#)), Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise (Mini-CEX), Case-based Discussions (CbD), Directly Observed Practical Skills (DOPS) and Audit Assessment (AA). Multi-Source Feedback (MSF) from colleagues is also required.

- (4) The [ePortfolio](#). This web-based portfolio provides a record of progress through training and the acquisition of competencies, and relates to the curricula. The ePortfolio includes facilities for the direct recording of workplace based assessments, records of appraisal, [Educational Supervisor reports](#) and the outcomes of Annual Reviews of Competency Progression.
- (5) Annual Reviews of Competency Progression (ARCPs) are held in June of each year to document a trainee's progress in training. The ARCP process starts with an examination of the trainee's ePortfolio by the ARCP panel. If the panel is satisfied that the ARCP requirements have been met, then the trainee is informed that their ARCP has had a satisfactory outcome. If the panel are not satisfied that the ARCP requirements have been met, then the trainee is informed that their ARCP has had an unsatisfactory outcome and a face to face meeting will be arranged to discuss the trainee's further training needs.
- (6) Trainee surveys. The Gold Guide requires that trainees should participate in the annual GMC Trainees Survey and the Deanery's CMT Post Evaluation Survey for all placements undertaken that year. Failure to do so will result in an unsatisfactory ARCP outcome

The date for the next ARCP in CMT is Friday 10th June 2011 and your ePortfolio should be complete and ready for assessment by that date

The Practicalities

You should make sure that you know the following people:-

Your **Clinical Supervisor**, who oversees your clinical work, and gives informs your Educational Supervisor of your clinical and educational progress. Your Clinical Supervisor is likely to be one of your **Trainers**

Your **Educational Supervisor**, who has educational responsibility for your professional development and progression through the training programme. You should meet with your Educational Supervisor at regular intervals to discuss your progress and receive feedback. Your [Educational Supervisor's report](#) forms an important part of your ARCP.

Your [RCP College Tutor](#), who is the Local CMT Programme Director within your hospital and ensures the production of CMT programmes to the required standards, including the delivery of structured training relevant to the curriculum. *Your College Tutor should be able to tell you who all the other relevant people are*

Your local **CMT Trainee Representative**, who is a trainee elected to support the RCP College Tutor on CMT matters and to act as a representative for Core Medical Trainees in your hospital

Your **Postgraduate Centre Manager**, who should be able to arrange help with issues such as training in the use of the ePortfolio.

Your **Postgraduate Organiser**, who can provide alternative pastoral support

You should discuss training problems initially with your Educational Supervisor, turning to your College Tutor or Postgraduate Organiser if necessary.

Members of the [Core Medical Training Executive Board](#) of the [Wales Specialty Training School for Medicine](#) can also offer additional help including advice from the School CMT Careers Lead and the Less Than Full Time Advisors and help with any adjustments needed by trainees with disabilities

Assessments and ARCPs

As a CMT trainee you should take the lead in organising your training and assessments

The clinical curriculum has four competencies in Emergency Presentations, 20 competencies in Acute Presentations and 40 in Other Presentations. In addition there are 17 practical procedures to be assessed by DOPS and 25 common competencies in the generic curriculum. To achieve the required evidence of competence (as stipulated by the ARCP decision aid) this will require at least one WPBAs every two working weeks. It is best to try and undertake these assessments at an even pace throughout the year, rather than in a rush before an impending ARCP. The Curriculum indicates which assessments are best for each competence; for some Practical Procedures more than one satisfactory DOPS will be needed. You will also need to arrange one MSF each year and have satisfactory reports from all your Educational Supervisors

This document is sent to your preferred email address, which you should check at least weekly. We need you to email us back acknowledge that you have received this document and understood its contents. Failure to do this will be taken as evidence of unwillingness to engage with our educational processes and may prejudice the outcome of your next ARCP.