

January 2010

Assessment and the E-Portfolio: SpRs and StRs

Assessment for StRs

The assessment systems for each specialty were approved by PMETB in 2007 (and will be again in 2009 for the curricula coming into use in August 2010). In developing these systems specialties combined some methods which are already well established for trainee physicians (e.g. MRCP, mini-CEX, DOPS, multi-source feedback) with some methods that have only recently been developed and piloted (e.g. specialty certificate exams, case-based discussion, audit assessment, acute care assessment tool, teaching observation and patient survey). Until the full range of assessment tools is in widespread use, there will need to be a degree of flexibility in applying the assessment systems and JRCPTB encourages deaneries to make allowance for this during ARCPs.

The assessment systems for each specialty are available on the specialty pages of the JRCPTB website (www.jrcptb.org.uk). We would advise all trainees to read over the ARCP decision aid and any other related documents well in advance of their ARCP and to use this as a guide for planning assessments.

For more information on the assessment methods please see [Workplace-Based Assessment](#).

Assessment for SpRs

It is hoped that all SpRs in programme would be completing the Work Place Based Assessments on a regular basis and evidence of completing these assessments should be reviewed at RITAs and Penultimate Year Assessments (PYAs). DOPs and MSF were introduced from October 2005 and mini-CEX from October 2006 and are useful tools for assessing trainees due for their Penultimate Year Assessments (PYAs).

Forms for the validated Work Place Based Assessments can be downloaded from [WPBA documentation](#) and the specialty pages on the JRCPTB website.

Where they have agreed to carry out wpbas, SpRs may be guided as per the table below:

	Frequency of assessments
Mini-CEX	4 per year
DOPs	6 over 4 years
MSF	2 in 4 years

For more specific guidance on which areas of the curriculum lend themselves to assessment by which method please review the StR curriculum and assessment blueprint for the specialty.

E-portfolio

All trainees on Core Training (CT) and Acute Care Common Stem (ACCS) programmes use the JRCPTB ePortfolio. Specialty trainees (ST3+) can also now access the ePortfolio and it is currently at a late stage of development to include all specialty specific curricula and assessments. We are not recommending that SpRs use the ePortfolio, but they are not prohibited from doing so. Its use is mandatory for all those who started training from 1st August 2007. JRCPTB will only provide access to the ePortfolio to those who have completed their enrolment.

This web-based portfolio provides a record of progress through training and the acquisition of competencies, based on the relevant curricula. The ePortfolio includes facilities for direct recording of workplace based assessments, records of appraisal, Educational Supervisor reports and ARCP outcomes.

It is primarily the trainee's responsibility to enter information into the JRCPTB ePortfolio but supervisors also have access to shared parts of the portfolio and have a responsibility to record appraisal outcomes and sign off the record of competence.

The JRCPTB ePortfolio team may be contacted at ePortfolioteam@jrcptb.org.uk for further information and guidance.