

**JOINT ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS TRAINING BOARD
(JRCPTB)**

**Annual Specialty Report for Allergy to
The Postgraduate Medical Training Board (PMETB)
for August 2007 to July 2008**

1. Establishing Schools

In most deaneries across the country, Allergy has been included in schools of medicine: there are at present fewer than 10 trainees UK wide. This is the real difficulty with a lack of manpower.

2. Triggered Visits

There have been no triggered visits for this specialty although PMETB visited allergy as one of its planned visits in 2007

3. Effect of changes to the specialty

There is hope within the specialty that the numbers of allergy consultant posts, training centres and Specialty Registrar posts will expand in the next decade to cope with the increasing prevalence of allergic disease.

4. Key concerns for the future of the specialty

In small specialities such as allergy there is limited manpower to cope with training directives such as examination setting

5. RITAs/ARCPs. The following includes the responses we have received from the Heads of Specialist Training for this specialty

No specific information has been received on the 8 trainees enrolled in Allergy

6. European Working Time Directive (EWTD): The following includes the responses we have received from the Heads of Specialist Training for this specialty

There have been no concerns reported for this specialty

7. Training Programme Director Report information

We have not received these reports for every Deanery for this reporting period but intend to include the themes in subsequent reports.

8. Examinations

We do not have examination data available for this reporting period.

9. Assessments

Workplace based assessments for the medical specialties including Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS), mini CEX, and Multisource Feedback (MSF) have been in place since 2005. Although there have been concerns within each specialty with regard to the time involved to complete these, their use has been widely encouraged so that PMETB standards are met. We continue to pilot further workplace based assessments.

10. e-portfolio

Pilots for the specialty e-portfolios have been completed and will be available from April 2009. In the meantime, trainees have been advised to complete paper records or to continue to use their CMT e-portfolio.