

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

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

1. Establishing Schools

The specialty is incorporated within Schools of Medicine, in some instances as an Associate school of Oncology as part of the Schools of Medicine

2. Triggered Visits

No triggered visits have been reported within the last year

3. Effect of changes to the specialty

There are numerous new therapies for cancer, but the current training allows these to be incorporated. The National Cancer Strategy and National Chemotherapy advisory Group reports outline the need for providing more continuous cancer care to improve inpatient stays and better systems of care for providing chemotherapy. These are worked into the training, and will have impact on future working practices

4. Key concerns for the future of the specialty

Overall there are relatively few concerns. There is increased working with the Royal College of Radiologists to align elements of core training, between Medical and Clinical Oncology but a recognition by all that the separate specialties bring important but different elements of cancer care and expertise.

Research training is a very important part of medical oncology and several Deaneries have NIHR ACF/CL programmes. There is ongoing work to ensure that a robust clinical and academic training is provided within these. It is important that these and OOPE for research training are maintained as part of the overall training for Medical Oncology.

There is ongoing work with the development of an E-Learning package to allow the taught elements of the training to be provided. At present most training schemes have a local/regional taught course. There will undoubtedly be a transition period in the future as E-learning is rolled out and local taught courses are modified.

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

All trainees for this specialty have had successful RITAs/ARCPs. We do not have a full report, this will be incorporated into future reports.

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

Overall, the rotas are compliant. Many rotations combine medical and clinical

oncology for on call cover, some have separate rotations. There are difficulties in some regions with significant impact on the intensity of rotas caused by the effects of EWTD on other grades eg Hospital at Night. This will undoubtedly have a negative impact on training

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 an examination as yet. There is significant work being carried out to set an exam, through the RCP.

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 for a few years in many of the Deaneries already. These are being rolled out to the remaining deaneries

10. e-portfolio

The e portfolio has not been developed in Medical Oncology as yet, but a plan for development is being worked on.