

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

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

1. Establishing Schools

Rheumatology is part of the school of medicine at each deanery. The SAC is not aware of any problems relating to this in individual regions

2. Triggered Visits

No triggered visits have been reported by the respondents and the SAC Chairman is unaware of any in Rheumatology.

3. Effect of changes to the specialty

Trainees need to be aware of new treatments with particular reference to biologic agents.

4. Key concerns for the future of the specialty

Creating new ways of working with Primary Care Trusts and the effects this will have on training

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 have received no reports of adverse RITA decisions. For the 225 trainees enrolled in Rheumatology it was been reported that 1 trainees was issued with a RITA E and has been on supernumerary remedial training since then.

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

It appears that this is a complex issue for Medical Specialties like rheumatology as most trainees dually accredit in rheumatology and general internal medicine. The Rheumatology aspects of the posts are mostly compliant. One region reported that it is not currently compliant with EWTD as their registrars also do out of hours cover, but are hoping to recruit a Clinical Fellow and this person will take part in the on-call which will make them compliant.

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. However, we have received various Education Committee meeting minutes for this specialty which do not

highlight any training or assessment concerns.

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 the e-portfolio for Rheumatology is now live and available for use by enrolled StRs. During the transition period trainees had been advised to complete paper records or to continue to use their CMT e-portfolio.