

2017 NATIONAL TRAINEE SURVEY

GENERAL (INTERNAL) MEDICINE

SPECIALTY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

SEPTEMBER 2017

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Introduction

The National Trainee Survey is an annual survey commissioned and administered by the General Medical Council (GMC). The survey has been in place since 2010.

The purpose of the survey is to gather feedback from trainees to help local education providers such as hospitals and general practices improve their training practice. It also helps postgraduate deaneries/local education and training boards (LETBs) manage training programmes, which are usually delivered across a number of different local education providers (LEPs). The GMC use red and green colour coding to highlight results that are significantly above or below the average to help identify areas for investigation.

The trainee survey is comprised of a set of generic questions which test trainees' perceptions of training providers' compliance with the GMC standards, and specialty specific questions set by Royal Colleges and Faculties which test their perceptions of the quality of delivery of the curricula. It is a unique opportunity for managers of training programmes to hear the views of their trainees.

In 2015, a pilot survey was undertaken as part of the GMC's National Trainee Survey whereby trainees who declared they were dual training in one of the following specialties, Gastroenterology, Geriatric Medicine, Renal Medicine or Respiratory Medicine together with General (Internal) Medicine were asked 12 additional questions relating to their training in General (Internal) Medicine. Gastroenterology trainees were not part of the survey in 2017; however 2017 data has been included for dual trainees training in the following specialties: Endocrinology and Diabetes Mellitus, Geriatric Medicine, Renal Medicine and Respiratory Medicine.

Numbers of G(I)M trainees completing the survey

Deanery/LETB	Year	Endocrinology and Diabetes	Geriatric Medicine	Renal Medicine	Respiratory Medicine	TOTAL
Defence Postgraduate Medical Deanery	2016		0	0	3	3
	2017	1	0	0	<3	1
Health Education East Midlands	2016	*	39	14	33	86
	2017	21	37	10	32	100
Health Education East of England	2016	*	24	10	29	63
	2017	16	32	19	32	99
Health Education Kent, Surrey and Sussex	2016	*	38	5	35	78
	2017	22	43	2	21	88
Health Education North Central and East London	2016	*	51	19	29	99
	2017	19	39	16	21	95
Health Education North East	2016	*	35	11	25	71
	2017	19	30	9	26	84
Health Education North West	2016	*	66	20	49	135
	2017	39	75	25	54	193
Health Education North West London	2016	*	29	7	30	66
	2017	28	32	11	21	92
Health Education South London	2016	*	38	11	23	72
	2017	18	37	12	33	100
Health Education South West	2016	*	37	17	35	89
	2017	18	42	15	38	113
Health Education Thames Valley	2016	*	22	6	13	41
	2017	15	24	8	13	60
Health Education Wessex	2016	*	29	4	25	58
	2017	11	26	3	26	66
Health Education West Midlands	2016	*	46	16	37	99
	2017	23	46	15	48	132
Health Education Yorkshire and Humber	2016	*	48	16	41	105
	2017	32	53	14	47	146
NHS Education for Scotland	2016	*	49	11	16	76
	2017	28	63	29	37	157
Northern Ireland Medical & Dental Training Agency	2016	*	13	3	<3	16
	2017	10	15	6	19	50
Wales Deanery	2016	*	32	14	20	66
	2017	19	42	11	24	96
TOTAL	2016		596	184	443	1223
	2017	339	636	205	492	1672
% Difference			+6%	+10%	+10%	+27%

* Endocrinology and Diabetes Mellitus trainees did not complete the G(I)M questions in 2016.

Executive Summary

1672 General (Internal) Medicine (G(I)M) trainees, dual training in Endocrinology and Diabetes, Geriatric Medicine, Renal Medicine and Respiratory Medicine completed the G(I)M questions. Excluding the Endocrinology and Diabetes trainees, who were not invited in 2016, there was a 10% (110 trainees) increase in 2017.

Despite the increase in the number of trainees completing the G(I)M questions, overall, there has been very little change in the percentage of trainee agreement in each of the questions. The highlighted areas are:

- Renal Medicine trainees were less likely to be dual training in G(I)M in comparison to Endocrinology and Diabetes, Geriatric and Respiratory Medicine trainees.
- 29% of Renal Medicine trainees had a separate formerly identified G(I)M mentor in comparison to Geriatric (13%), Endocrinology and Diabetes (12%) and Respiratory Medicine (11%), but there were significant variations across the regions.
- An average of 79% of trainees in Geriatric, Renal and Respiratory Medicine agree that the proportion of time they spend in G(I)M is appropriate, however only 57% of Endocrinology and Diabetes trainees were in agreement. The regional variation was highest in Endocrinology and Diabetes.
- More than 80% of trainees across all four specialties identified a 70% service provision / 30% training split or higher whilst working in G(I)M.
- Geriatric Medicine trainees were most in agreement (+5% to 68%) that working on the 'hospital at night' rota had benefitted their training with increases across the grades from ST4-ST7. Renal Medicine trainees (47%) were least in agreement.
- Trainees agreeing they had a designated supervisor with whom they could discuss 'hospital at night' cases have increased compared to 2016 in Geriatric, Renal and Respiratory Medicine. A significantly higher percentage of trainees in Renal Medicine said they did not take part in the hospital at night rota.
- Approximately 50% of trainees rated their overall supervision received in G(I)M as Very Good or Good. Less than 20% of East Midlands trainees in Renal and Respiratory Medicine rated their supervision as Very Good or Good.
- Just under half of trainees in Geriatric, Renal and Respiratory Medicine rated the training opportunities in G(I)M as Very Good or Good. In Renal Medicine, only 13% of South West trainees rated the opportunities as Very Good or Good.
- Just over 20% of trainees overall agreed that they had considered discontinuing their training in G(I)M in the last 6 months, which is very similar to 2016, however overall satisfaction in G(I)M has increased 4% in 2017 to 48%.

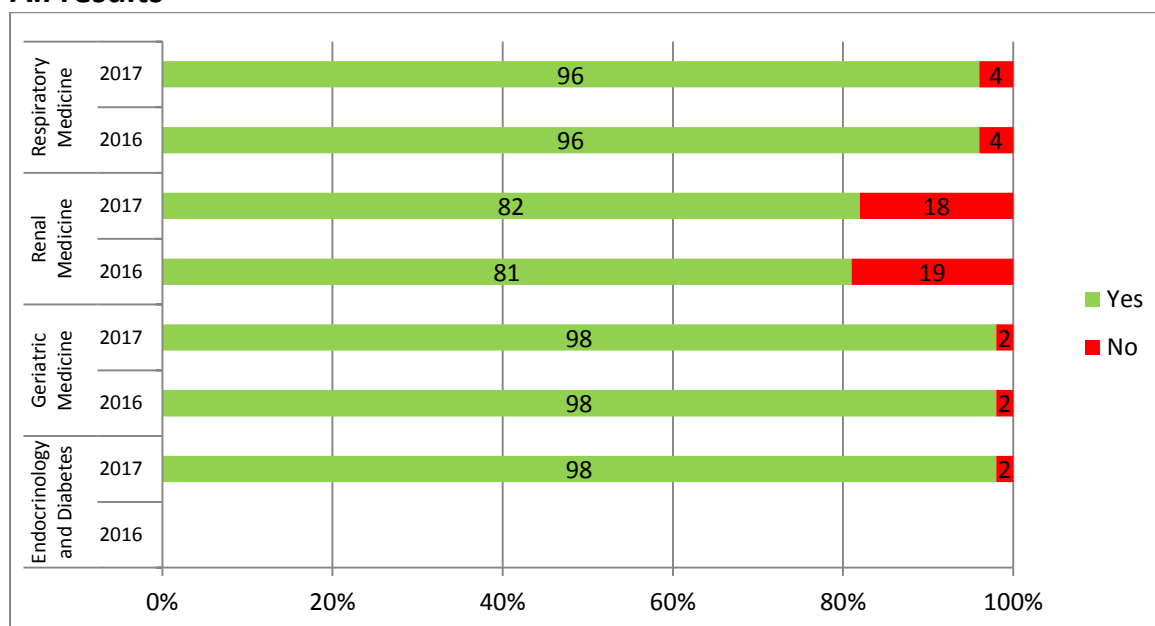
SPECIALTY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

Royal Colleges and Faculties specialty advisory committees are able to submit a small number of specialty specific questions to the GMC for inclusion in the survey. 12 questions for General (Internal) Medicine were included in the 2017 GMC National Trainee Survey.

1) Are you training in General (Internal) Medicine as specialty two?

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees in agreement (by grade)

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	97		100		99		100		96	
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	97	↓	98	↓	97	↔	100	↑	99	↑
	2016	99		99		97		98		96	
Renal Medicine	2017	81	↑	78	↑	84	↓	87	↑	83	↓
	2016	77		76		86		78		88	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	99	↑	96	↑	91	↓	96	↑	99	↔
	2016	98		92		96		95		99	

↑ Increase in agreement 2016/17
 ↓ decrease in agreement 2016/17
 ↔ Agreement unchanged 2016/17

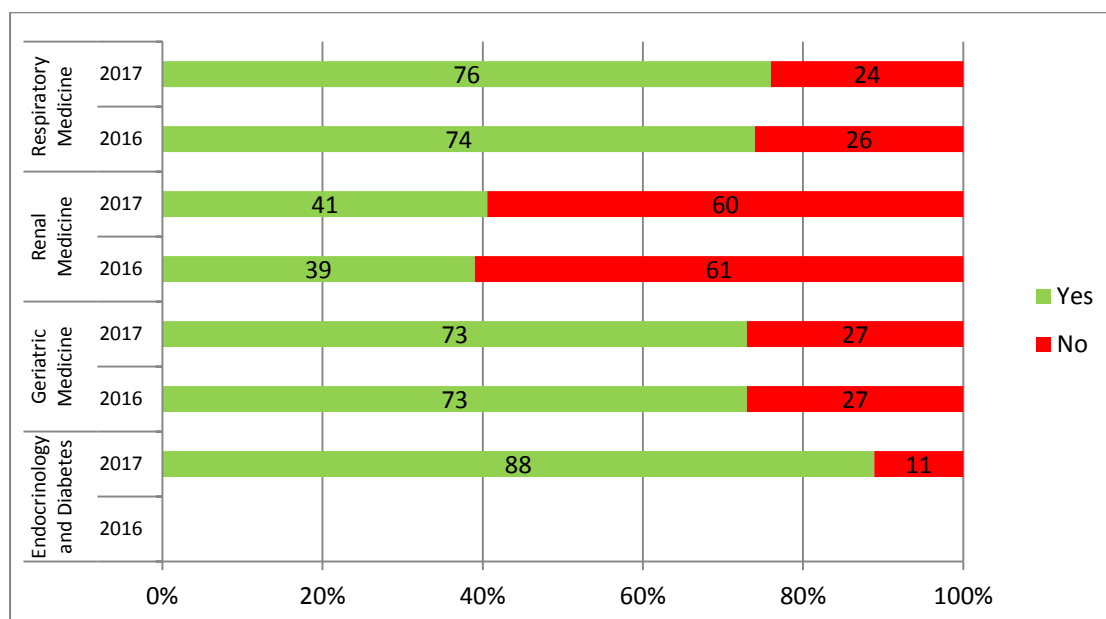
% of 2017 trainees in agreement (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	12/16 regions	100%	London (South)	90%	7
			Scotland	93%	[93-100]
Geriatric Medicine	8/16 regions	100%	Wessex	75%	25
			North East	94%	[75-100]
Renal Medicine	2/16 regions	100%	London (South)	63%	37
			Kent, Surrey & Sussex	67%	[63-100]
Respiratory Medicine	8/16 regions	100%	North West	87%	13
			London (South)	89%	[87-100]

2) Does your current specialty clinical supervisor participate in the acute medical take?

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees in agreement (by grade)

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	85		93		87		86		91	
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	71	↓	77	↑	70	↓	75	↑	76	↑
	2016	74		71		77		71		74	
Renal Medicine	2017	43	↓	28	↓	39	↑	27	↓	58	↑
	2016	47		33		38		44		34	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	87	↑	84	↑	60	↓	67	↑	72	↔
	2016	85		78		62		66		72	

Increase in agreement 2016/17	decrease in agreement 2016/17	Agreement unchanged 2016/17
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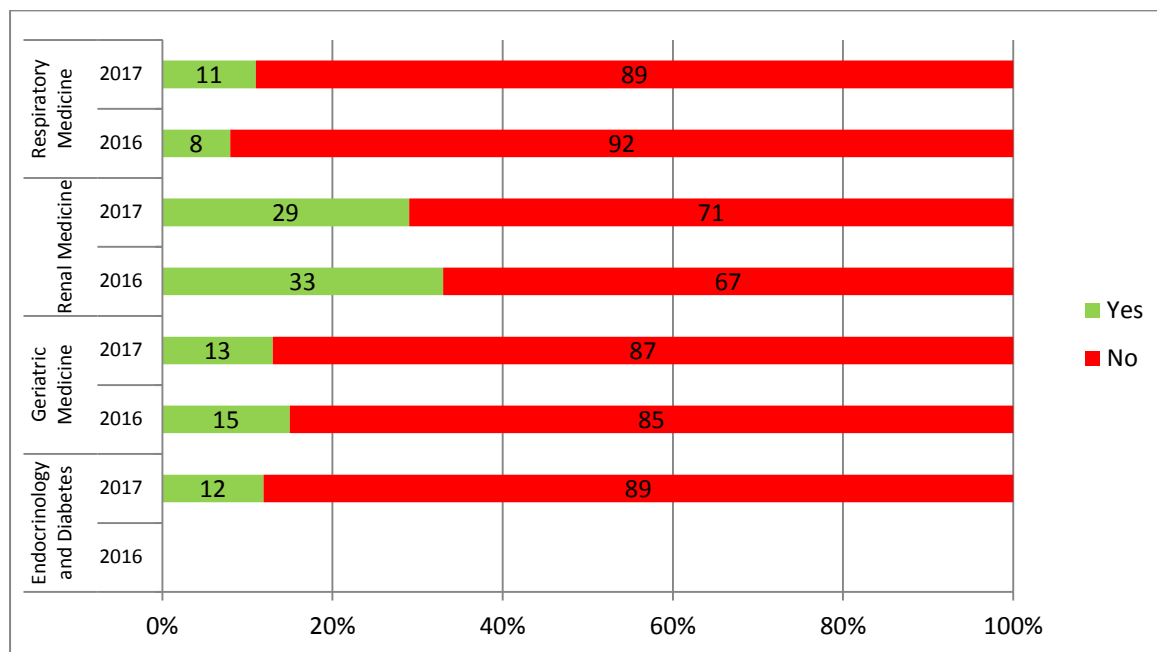
% of 2017 trainees in agreement (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	4/16 regions	100%	East of England	31%	31 [69-100]
Geriatric Medicine	West Midlands	96%	Northern Ireland	47%	49 [47-96]
	London (NW)	91%	Scotland	54%	
Renal Medicine	East of England	68%	Wessex	0%	68 [0-68]
	London (South)	67%	London (N, C & E)	19%	
Respiratory Medicine	Wales	96%	East of England	56%	30 [56-96]
	Northern Ireland	95%	London (N, C & E)	57%	

3) Do you have a separate, formally identified mentor or supervisor for your General (Internal) Medicine training?

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees in agreement (by grade)

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	13		12		10		12			
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	13	↑	12	↓	14	↓	13	↓	11	↓
	2016	11		14		17		15		16	
Renal Medicine	2017	20	↓	23	↓	22	↓	27	↓	53	↑
	2016	28		33		31		36		37	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	10	↑	5	↓	11	↑	8	↓	20	↑
	2016	4		8		4		13		14	

Increase in agreement 2016/17	decrease in agreement 2016/17	Agreement unchanged 2016/17
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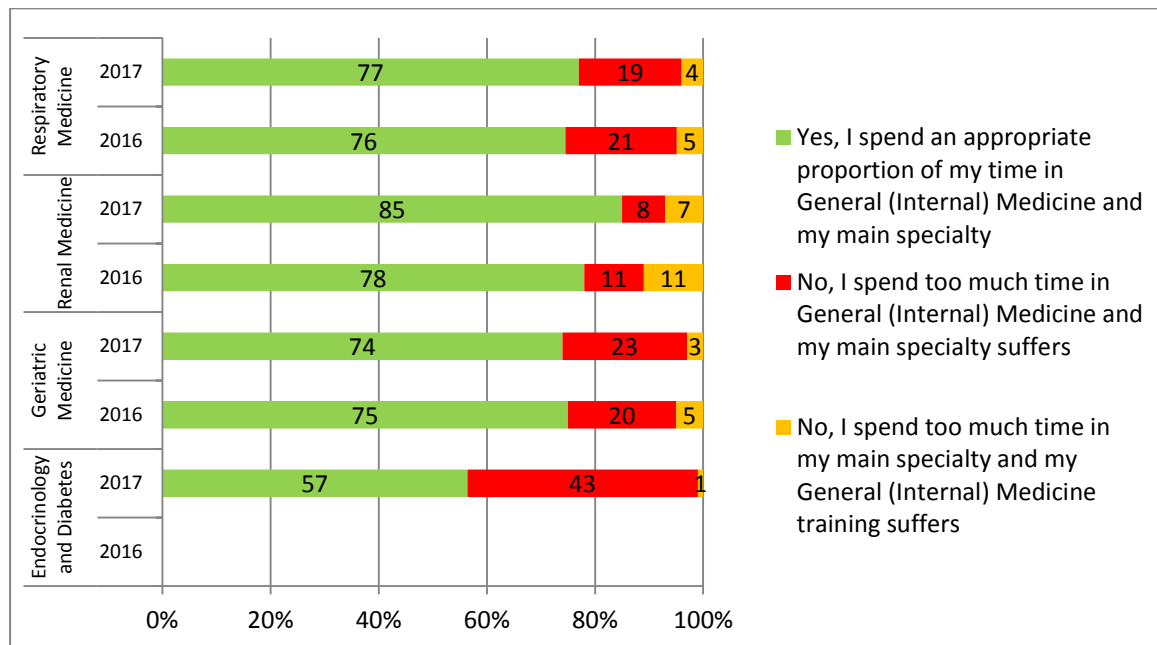
% of 2017 trainees in agreement (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	Northern Ireland	100%	West Midlands	4%	96
	South West	22%	North West	5%	[4-100]
Geriatric Medicine	Scotland	51%	North East	0%	51
	South West	24%	North West	3%	[0-51]
Renal Medicine	London (N, C & E)	56%	EoE, WAL, WMD	0%	56
	Scotland	52%	South West	13%	[0-56]
Respiratory Medicine	Wales	100%	Wessex	4%	96
	Scotland	27%	Northern Ireland	5%	[4-100]

4) Is your training appropriately distributed between your main specialty and General (Internal) Medicine?

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees in agreement (by grade)

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	56		54		49		61		67	
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	74	↓	74	↑	76	↑	71	↓	78	↓
	2016	79		69		72		78		84	
Renal Medicine	2017	80	↑	80	↓	83	↓	94	↑	89	↑
	2016	74		82		86		64		83	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	71	↓	76	↑	82	↑	71	↓	86	↔
	2016	72		74		73		76		86	

■ Increase in agreement 2016/17
 ■ decrease in agreement 2016/17
 ■ Agreement unchanged 2016/17

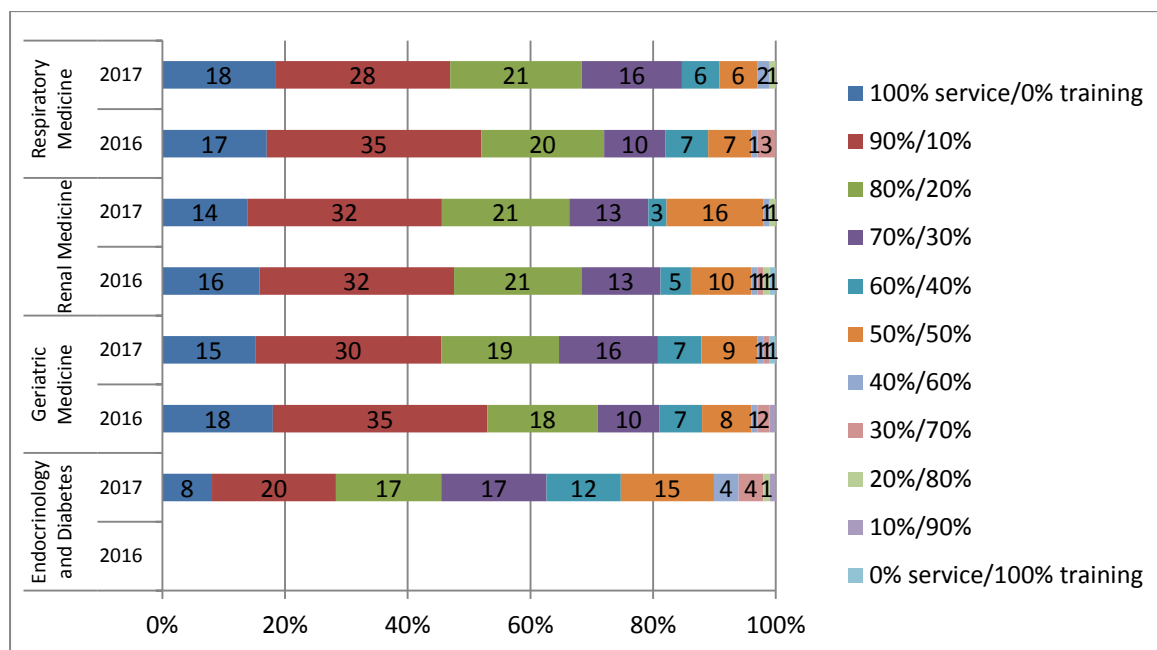
% of 2017 trainees in agreement (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	Northern Ireland	100%	West Midlands	30%	70
	London (South)	83%	East Midlands	43%	[30-100]
Geriatric Medicine	Northern Ireland	93%	East Midlands	49%	44
	London (South)	87%	East of England	63%	[49-93]
Renal Medicine	Thames Valley, Wessex	100%	East Midlands	70%	30
	East of England	95%	Wales	73%	[70-100]
Respiratory Medicine	Northern Ireland	90%	East Midlands	53%	37
	London (N, C & E)	86%	Wessex	65%	[53-90]

5) What balance between service provision and training time normally applies whilst working in General (Internal) Medicine?

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees saying the balance was 90% service and 10% training:

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	27		23		16		18		16	
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	33	↔	31	↓	26	↓	31	↓	29	↓
	2016	33		34		36		37		38	
Renal Medicine	2017	34	↑	37	↑	33	↓	27	↓	29	↓
	2016	23		31		38		39		31	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	27	↓	27	↓	34	↑	29	↓	26	↓
	2016	30		42		33		40		33	

■ Increase in agreement 2016/17
 ■ decrease in agreement 2016/17
 ■ Agreement unchanged 2016/17

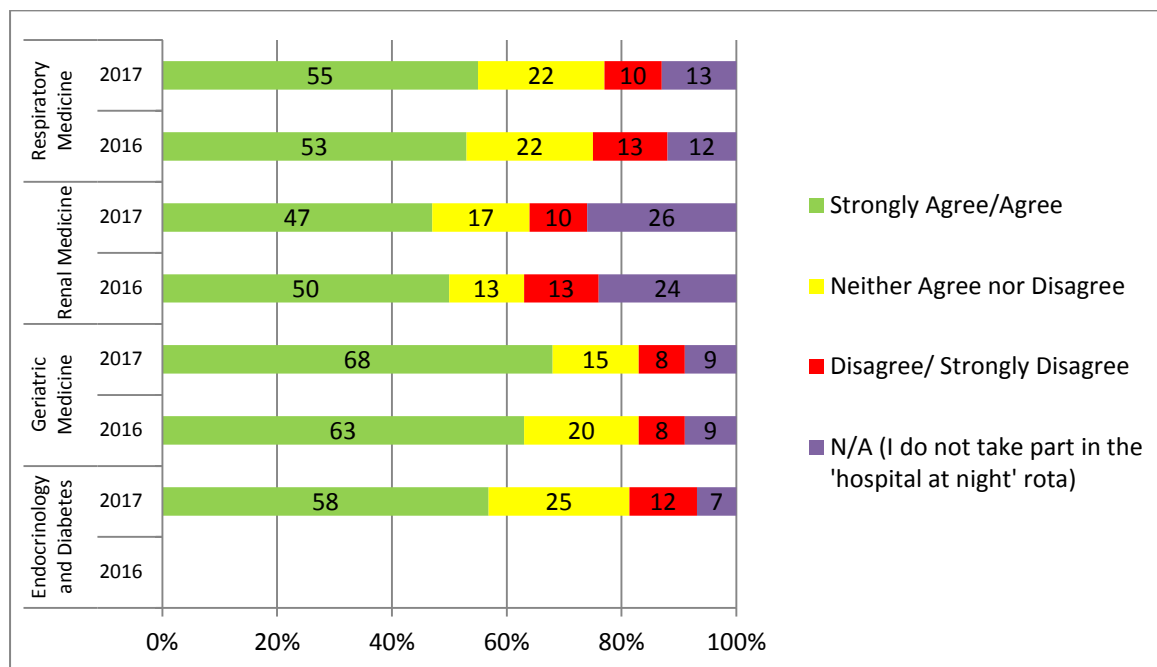
% of 2017 trainees saying the balance was 90% service and 10% training (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	Wessex	36%	West Midlands	9%	26
	East of England	31%	East Midlands	10%	[10-36]
Geriatric Medicine	South West	50%	East Midlands	16%	34
	East of England	38%	London (NW)	19%	[16-50]
Renal Medicine	London (South)	50%	KSS, Wessex	0%	50
	Wales	46%	North East	11%	[0-50]
Respiratory Medicine	South West	50%	Northern Ireland	5%	45
	London (NW)	48%	Yorkshire and Humber	17%	[5-50]

6) Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statement: My training has benefited from working on the 'hospital at night' rota

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees in agreement (by grade)

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	69		65		53		52		48	
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	71	↓	72	↑	66	↑	61	↑	68	↑
	2016	73		65		57		54		63	
Renal Medicine	2017	46	↓	51	↔	44	↓	46	↓	47	↓
	2016	49		51		55		47		49	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	66	↔	54	↓	55	↑	52	↑	43	↓
	2016	66		60		37		50		44	

█ Increase in agreement 2016/17
 █ decrease in agreement 2016/17
 █ Agreement unchanged 2016/17

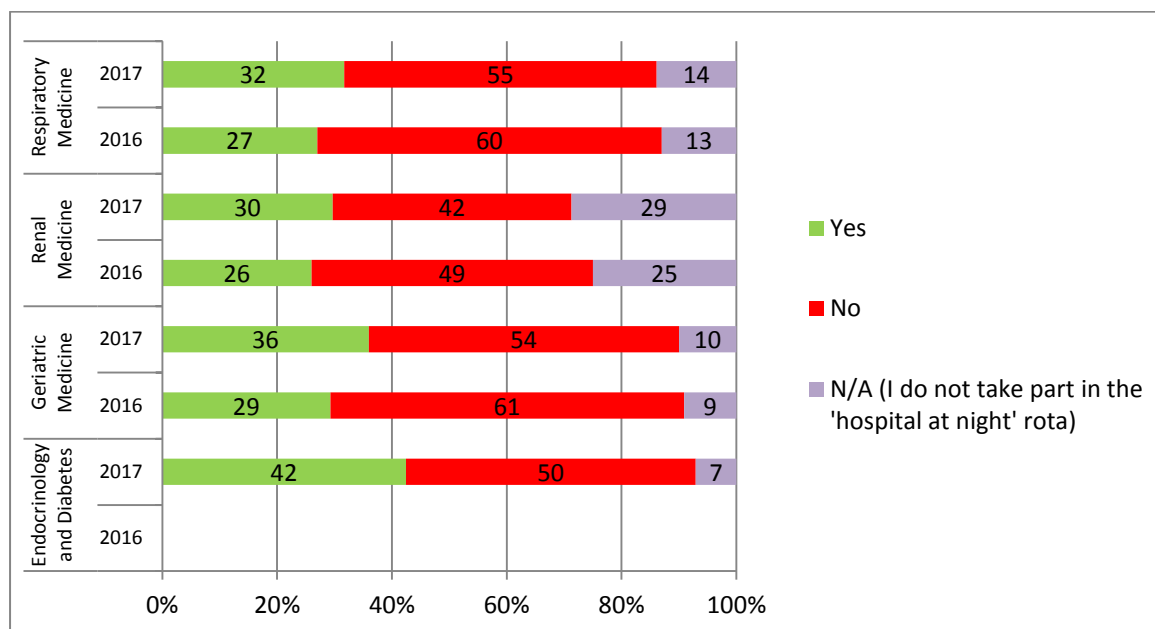
% of 2017 trainees in agreement (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	London (South)	78%	Wessex	36%	38
	Thames Valley	73%	Northern Ireland	40%	[40-78]
Geriatric Medicine	Northern Ireland	93%	London (N, C & E)	51%	42
	Thames Valley	88%	East of England	53%	[51-93]
Renal Medicine	Thames Valley	75%	Wessex	0%	75
	West Midlands	60%	East of England	21%	[0-75]
Respiratory Medicine	Northern Ireland	79%	East Midlands	28%	51
	London (N, C & E)	71%	North East	42%	[28-79]

7) Do you have a designated supervisor with whom you can discuss cases from your 'hospital at night' rota?

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees in agreement (by grade)

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	42		44		46		38		41	
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	38	↑	40	↑	38	↑	30	↑	35	↑
	2016	28		31		34		25		29	
Renal Medicine	2017	34	↑	29	↑	28	↑	24	↓	31	↑
	2016	21		28		26		28		26	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	28	↑	33	↓	28	↑	33	↑	37	↑
	2016	25		35		25		26		24	

Increase in agreement 2016/17	decrease in agreement 2016/17	Agreement unchanged 2016/17
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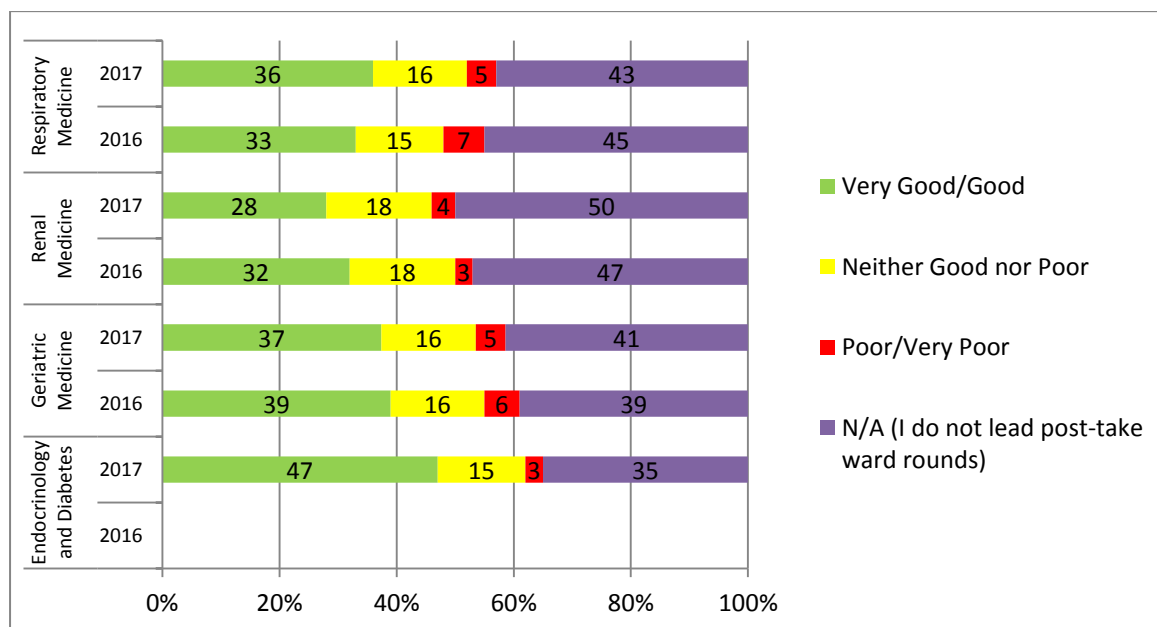
% of 2017 trainees in agreement (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	Thames Valley	67%	Wessex	18%	49
	North East	63%	Yorkshire and Humber	28%	[18-67]
Geriatric Medicine	Scotland	49%	Yorkshire and Humber	23%	26
	London (NW)	47%	NE, NIR	27%	[23-49]
Renal Medicine	North East	56%	LDN (N, C & E), THV	13%	43
	London (NW)	55%	East of England	16%	[13-56]
Respiratory Medicine	London (NW)	62%	Wales	12%	50
	North East	46%	Yorkshire and Humber	19%	[12-62]

8) If you lead post-take ward rounds, how good or poor is the feedback you receive from the educational and/or clinical supervisor?

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees in agreement (by grade)

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	37		39		49		39		72	
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	33	↓	35	↓	38	↑	34	↓	54	↑
	2016	40		40		31		35		50	
Renal Medicine	2017	23	↑	26	↓	14	↓	24	↓	49	↔
	2016	21		35		31		36		49	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	36	↑	31	↓	33	↑	29	↓	49	↑
	2016	30		33		31		36		37	

█ Increase in agreement 2016/17
 █ decrease in agreement 2016/17
 █ Agreement unchanged 2016/17

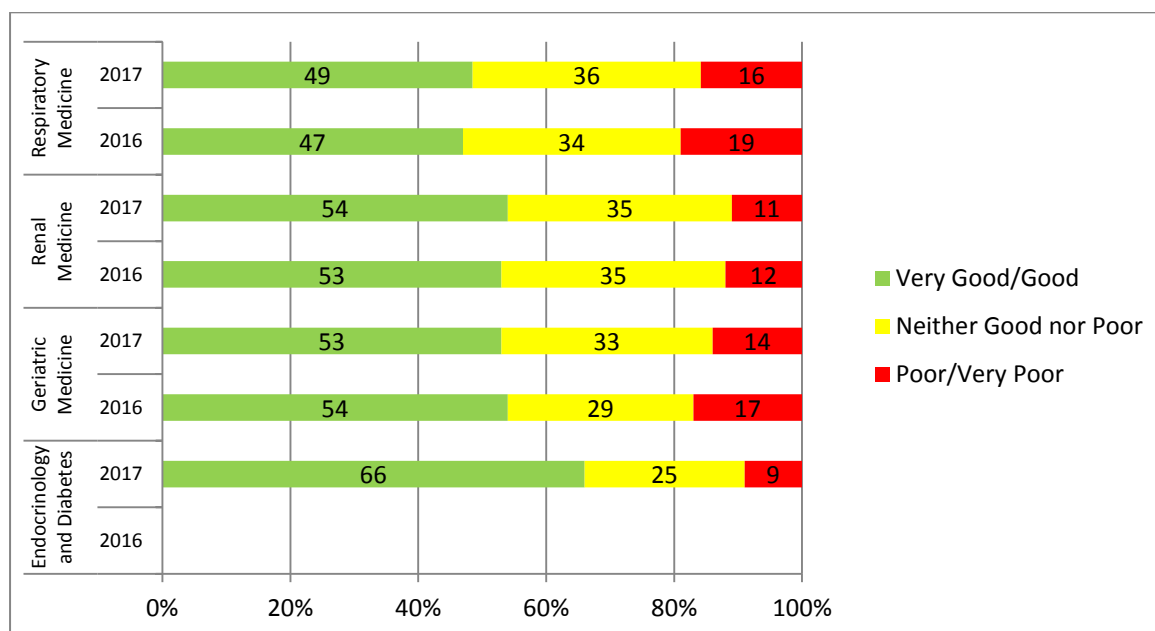
% of 2017 trainees in agreement (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	Wales	74%	Northern Ireland	20%	54
	North East	68%	Kent, Surrey and Sussex	27%	[20-74]
Geriatric Medicine	East Midlands	51%	East of England	18%	33
	4/16 regions	50%	North West	21%	[18-51]
Renal Medicine	North East	56%	West Midlands	13%	43
	Yorkshire and Humber	36%	EMD, SW	20%	[13-56]
Respiratory Medicine	London (NEW)	62%	East of England	13%	49
	Kent, Surrey and Sussex	54%	North West	20%	[13-62]

9) How would you rate the overall supervision you've received in General (Internal) Medicine?

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees in agreement (by grade)

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	59		64		64		62		84	
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	52	↓	57	↑	53	↑	46	↓	59	↑
	2016	54		54		52		55		55	
Renal Medicine	2017	46	↑	60	↑	45	↓	64	↑	60	↓
	2016	42		44		67		50		63	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	51	↑	39	↓	48	↑	50	↑	56	↑
	2016	48		51		40		49		45	

Increase in agreement 2016/17	decrease in agreement 2016/17	Agreement unchanged 2016/17
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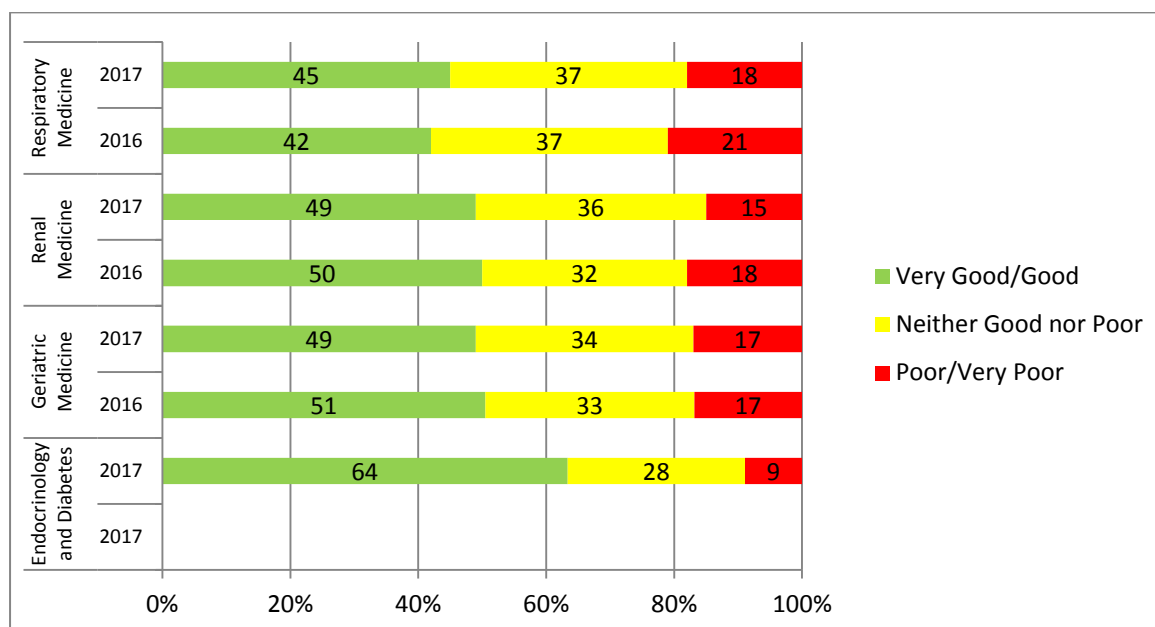
% of 2017 trainees in agreement (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	South West	95%	London (South)	44%	51
	Wales	90%	East of England	50%	[44-95]
Geriatric Medicine	Thames Valley	75%	East of England	25%	50
	Kent, Surrey and Sussex	74%	North East	37%	[25-75]
Renal Medicine	Wales	82%	East Midlands	20%	62
	North East	78%	East of England	21%	[20-82]
Respiratory Medicine	London (NW)	71%	East Midlands	16%	55
	Scotland	62%	North West	39%	[16-71]

10) How would you rate the training opportunities you've received in General (Internal) Medicine?

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees in agreement (by grade)

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	58		59		59		67		76	
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	41	↓	52	↑	51	↑	45	↓	61	↓
	2016	53		48		47		46		63	
Renal Medicine	2017	36	↓	54	↑	45	↓	52	↑	65	↑
	2016	42		49		60		44		57	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	49	↑	42	↓	39	↑	40	↓	56	↑
	2016	41		44		38		42		45	

↑	Increase in agreement 2016/17	↓	decrease in agreement 2016/17	↔	Agreement unchanged 2016/17
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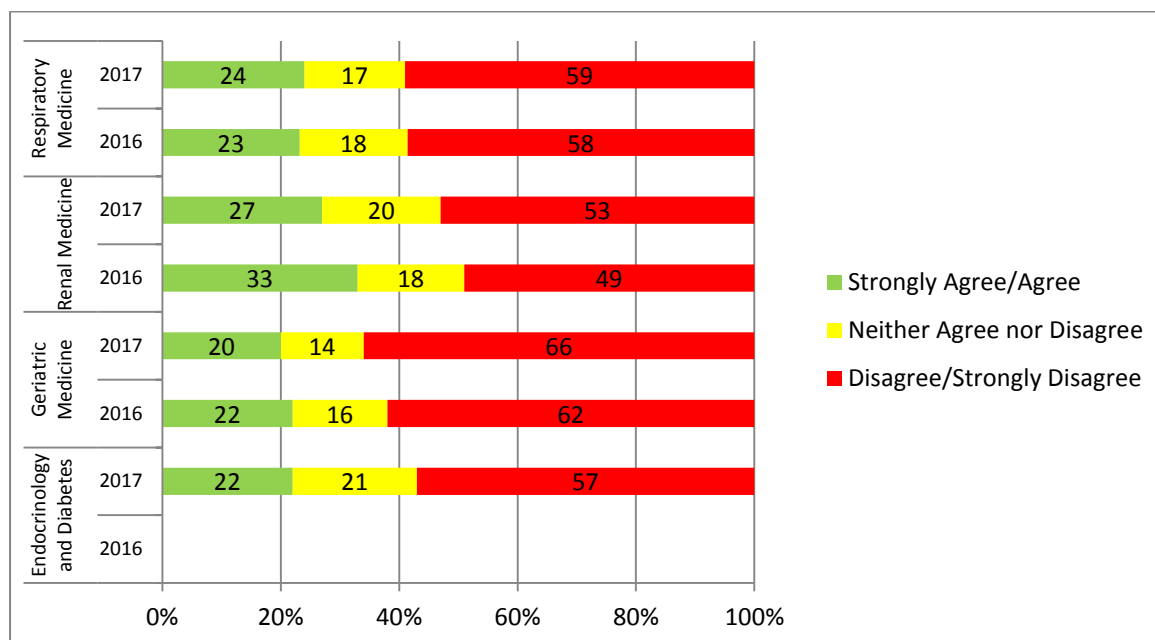
% of 2017 trainees in agreement (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	Wessex	82%	East of England	44%	38 [44-82]
	Wales	79%	LDN (Sth), NIR, Y & H	50%	
Geriatric Medicine	Northern Ireland	87%	East of England	28%	59 [28-87]
	LDN (NW), THV	75%	Wessex	31%	
Renal Medicine	North East	78%	South West	13%	65 [13-78]
	Wales	73%	East of England	21%	
Respiratory Medicine	Kent, Surrey and Sussex	73%	East Midlands	28%	45 [28-73]
	Thames Valley	69%	Wessex	31%	

11) In the last six months, I have considered discontinuing my training in General (Internal) Medicine

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees in agreement (by grade)

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	25		25		19		27		13	
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	21	↓	24	↑	23	↓	18	↔	11	↓
	2016	26		23		24		18		14	
Renal Medicine	2017	27	↑	20	↓	42	↑	21	↓	27	↑
	2016	21		46		33		44		20	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	26	↑	21	↓	23	↓	30	↑	21	↑
	2016	20		31		30		24		13	

 Increase in agreement 2016/17
 decrease in agreement 2016/17
 Agreement unchanged 2016/17

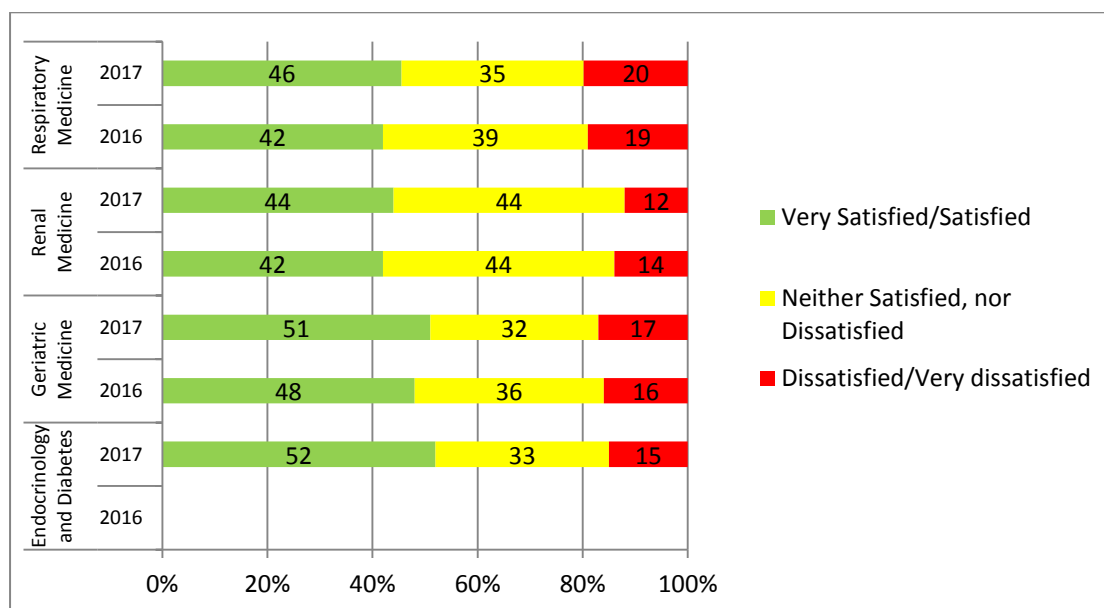
% of 2017 trainees in agreement (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	East Midlands	33%	LDN (STH), WAL	11%	22
	North East	32%	East of England	13%	[11-33]
Geriatric Medicine	East Midlands	38%	Wessex	4%	34
	Wales	29%	Northern Ireland	7%	[4-38]
Renal Medicine	East Midlands	60%	South West	7%	53
	London (South)	50%	North West	8%	[7-60]
Respiratory Medicine	East Midlands	41%	Northern Ireland	0%	41
	Wales	36%	Wessex	12%	[0-41]

12) How satisfied are you with your post in General (Internal) Medicine?

(This question was presented to trainees of the following grades: ST3, ST4, ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8)

All results



% of trainees in agreement (by grade)

		ST3		ST4		ST5		ST6		ST7	
Endocrinology and Diabetes	2017	42		54		44		53		70	
	2016										
Geriatric Medicine	2017	49	↓	52	↑	51	↑	49	↑	60	↑
	2016	52		45		45		47		56	
Renal Medicine	2017	36	↓	62	↑	36	↓	52	↑	49	↓
	2016	40		28		55		36		51	
Respiratory Medicine	2017	47	↑	44	↑	35	↑	41	↓	60	↑
	2016	42		38		31		53		44	

█ Increase in agreement 2016/17
 █ decrease in agreement 2016/17
 █ Agreement unchanged 2016/17

% of 2017 trainees in agreement (by Deanery/LETB)

	Highest agreement		Lowest agreement		Range
Endocrinology and Diabetes	Wales	79%	Yorkshire and Humber	22%	57
	South West	72%	Wessex	46%	[22-79]
Geriatric Medicine	Thames Valley	79%	East Midlands	35%	44
	Wales	69%	Yorkshire and Humber	36%	[35-79]
Renal Medicine	North East, Wessex	67%	East of England	11%	56
	Wales	64%	East Midlands	20%	[11-67]
Respiratory Medicine	Thames Valley	62%	East Midlands	28%	34
	Scotland	60%	East of England	31%	[28-64]