

Anaesthetics Trainee Update 29/09/2009

Dear Colleague,
You will remember that I promised to try and give you monthly updates on issues relevant to your training. May I draw your attention to the following pieces of very important information:

CT1 Trainees

It is now almost October. By the end of October you *must* have completed your initial test of competency. The onus is on you. By now you should have downloaded the forms and approached your college tutor or educational supervisor to arrange this. Also you will be required to complete your first three monthly workplace assessments and have completed 3 DOPs, 2 AnaesCEX and 1 CBD. All certificates of your initial test of competency to be sent to Michael by the beginning of November. He will be required to send these on to the RCoA. There can be NO exceptions to this as we are under huge pressure from the RCoA and PMETB.

CT2 Trainees

We have just been informed this week that to keep in line with recruitment time lines in Great Britain that advertisements for ST3 positions will be in December 2009, shortlisting in January 2010 and interviews will be held in February 2010. In other words everything has been brought forward by a month.

This decision is beyond our control. Since it is likely that applicants will be required to have passed the primary FRCA or FCARCSI by the time of interview in February, this effectively means that most people probably will only have been able to have one attempt at the primary unless they applied for both London and Dublin examinations.

ST3, 4 and 5 Trainees

To all who have just completed their intermediate training or still in the process. The RCoA have informed me that they are tightening up the rules about deferring specialist modules to ST5 year. Previously we were not required to inform them in advance. Now we do. Although it is still possible to defer units to ST5 we require prospective approval from the RCoA. This I believe generally affects cardiothoracic, paediatrics and neurosurgical anaesthesia most commonly and occurs for rotational reasons. To send the correct information to the college I require all trainees who have already had units deferred to ST5 this year or expect to have units deferred to next year (2010/2011) to e-mail me and let me know the details.

Trainees completing RITA F assessments

Just a reminder that the RCoA requires not only proper and regular workplace assessments but also a

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full supervisor's written report on the time spent OOP.

Trainees completing the ARCP process

We shall shortly be sending out the time-line for completion of your structured educational report. We shall also send an example of what an ideal structured educational report should look like to give you guidance. As I mentioned previously, we will not be able to accept any incomplete reports this year.

All Trainees - NHS Trainee Appraisal

It is our understanding from the PGD that responsibility for organising trainee appraisals rests with the Directors of Post Graduate Medical Education within each Trust. Presumably they will be delegating this task to appropriate representatives within the trust who will be in contact with you.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information. If you have any queries about any of this contact Michael as usual.

Best wishes.
Clive Stanley.