

THE INTERCOLLEGIATE BOARD FOR TRAINING IN INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE

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The following statement has been approved by MMC and was issued to Postgraduate Deans on 7 November 2006:

FIXED TERM SPECIALTY TRAINING APPOINTMENTS IN INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE GUIDANCE FOR DEANS

Objective

The objective of a one year Fixed Term Specialty Training Appointment (FTSTA) in Intensive Care Medicine (ICM) is to provide a thorough grounding in ICM suitable for those who subsequently might wish to practise the specialty on a full time basis and those who wish to practise ICM on a part time basis jointly with another specialty. Such appointments are also of value, and indeed may be of most value, to those who expect to practise hospital medicine in an acute specialty in which there is currently no provision for training in ICM, but for which training in ICM is of value. Examples include cardiology, cardiothoracic surgery and nephrology.

Approval and appointment

Establishment and approval of these posts is the responsibility of the local Postgraduate Dean. Appointment will be through the National MTAS process.

Person Specification

The person specifications for entry to ST1 or ST2 are those used for the Acute Care Common Stem (ACCS) for entry into a FTSTA.

Curricular considerations

The principles of the curriculum are set out in the 'Reference Manual for Trainees and Trainers', Part 1 of the Curriculum Documentation that has been submitted to PMETB. The one year FTSTA should comprise the parts of the curriculum laid out in Parts 3 and 4, Preliminary and Core Training in ICM along with the pertinent sections of the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Manual, Part 6 (attached for ease of reference). ICM training in a FTSTA is constrained to the Preliminary and Core competences since more advanced training in ICM for a Joint CCT programme can only occur after a successful

application to a specialty of primary appointment and only then in the last two projected years of Specialty Training. It should be recognised that if Preliminary and Core training are acquired as part of an FTSTA the considerable lapse of time from the initial acquisition of these competences to entry to the final (Enhanced) stage of ICM training may require revision and reassessment of the Preliminary and Core competences achieved by an individual.

Entry into an FTSTA in ICM

Entry into a FTSTA offering training in ICM is possible from F2 or after one year of FTSTA training in another specialty. Only one year of training in a FTSTA is possible in ICM. The process of appointment will be managed by deaneries (using the MTAS portal) and the person specification that used for the ACCS programme at either ST1 or ST2.

It is essential that both deaneries and trainees are aware that undertaking an FTSTA in ICM confers no future rights to the trainee to pursue a career pathway in ICM, except through the usual competitive route. Doctors appointed to FTSTAs (in any circumstances) will not be awarded national training numbers.

Charles Gillbe
Chairman
Intercollegiate Board for Training in Intensive care Medicine