ICM Training Update on CESR-CP

We would like to take this opportunity to update you on the new guidance published by the GMC on CESR combined programmes. On the 18 May a new rule came into effect where the GMC stated it will now issue a certificate of training (CCT) to doctors on a combined programme who have trained in the UK for the minimum number of years as defined in the EU legislation. We felt the need to follow-up on a few questions we had for them on the process:

**ICM – CESR-CP**

*Question to GMC:* If it has definitely been confirmed by the GMC that ICM has no minimum training time under the ‘PMET Order’ then a trainee who wishes to bring their overseas / non-training posts onto the ICM programme would still be working towards a CESR-CP.

*Answer from the GMC:* If there is no minimum UK training time listed for the specialty as is the case for ICM, doctors entering the programme on a combined programme on consideration of prior unapproved posts will not be eligible for a CCT and would be on the CESR(CP) route.

*FICM:* No change. Any doctor wishing to bring non training posts / overseas training onto the ICM programme will be working towards a CESR-CP.

**Impact on dual programmes**

*Question to GMC:* If we have a dual trainee (ICM + Anaesthesia) who is working towards a CCT in Anaesthesia (switched from CESR-CP to CCT), but for ICM they have brought in overseas or non-training posts onto the ICM programme and are working towards a CESR-CP, what will be their ultimate end of training certification? A CCT or a CESR-CP?

*Answer from the GMC:* This is being looked into and the plan is to reissue the guidance to all Colleges and Faculties shortly with some clarification on this. I’m unable to confirm at this stage, however it may be that this scenario needs to be considered in the next phase of this project.

*FICM:* Unfortunately we cannot provide any updates to the trainees or trainers on final dual programme certifications yet.

**Understanding the PMET Order**

*Question to the GMC:* If a specialty has a minimum training time under the ‘PMET Order’ for example Anaesthesia which has 3 years, are we saying that 3 years of training can include the following:

- Non-training posts such as Trust Fellow, Clinical Fellow, OOPE, OOPC, SAS (Associate Specialist, Specialty Doctor, Staff Grade) and Consultant done within the UK? (please confirm what is acceptable)
And

- Overseas training?

If yes, then if it transpires that a doctor has done all 3 years overseas they would be working towards a CCT in Anaesthesia?

**Answer from the GMC:** The minimum UK training time refers to approved training posts within the UK programme where the trainee held an NTN – this would exclude unapproved posts such as those you’ve listed and only applies to UK training posts.

**Further question to the GMC:** We are slightly confused. ‘Where a specialty only has a minimum training time which is listed under the PMET Order, this minimum number of years training can include training undertaken within and outside of the UK’. Please can you clarify?

**Answer from the GMC:** Yes – that exception re: the PMET order only applies to one of the specialties listed – Aviation and space medicine. This can include training undertaken outside the UK.

We were hopeful that the new legislation would be of benefit to our trainees but it does not appear to apply to ICM, therefore unfortunately our trainees who are currently on a CESR-CP are ineligible for a CCT. This in turn also means that OOPE’s and non-training posts cannot be retrospectively approved as training time towards an ICM CCT.

The decision has been defined by European Law and confirmed by the GMC.

If you have any questions regarding this, please contact the GMC directly: equivalence@gmc-uk.org