

trainee eye

1st Edition; March 2014

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Welcome!

Welcome to the first edition of Trainee Eye, the newsletter for ICM trainees sent by the Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine!

The Faculty is keen to open up the channels of communications with ICM trainees, so that you all have an insight into the workings of the Faculty (both in terms of trainee specific information, and also Faculty wide information which is of relevance to the wider ICM community). It is hoped that this improved communication will enhance communications between ICM trainees and the Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine. The Faculty will initially send bi-annual newsletters – one in Spring, the other in Autumn, to complement the winter and summer updates in *Critical Eye*.

Since the introduction of the new Single and Dual ICM CCT, the Faculty has been working hard to satisfy all necessary requirements, including those of the GMC and other partner specialities in order to create a workable and successful training programme. This has been done via the FICM Training and Assessment Committee (TAC) and also the FICM Board. Locally we rely heavily on the hard work of the ICM Regional Advisors and also Faculty Tutors, who are based within ICM training units. As the programme is still in its infancy, there are continuous updates and processes being implemented in order to ensure that trainees, trainers, Faculty Tutors and Regional Advisors alike, are supported and following due process. For updates on these, please see the FICM website.

FICM website – Unit Briefs now available!

The Faculty have been liaising with the Regional Advisors and Faculty Tutors to obtain information of training opportunities locally and also to provide information about training units through which ICM trainees will rotate. We think that this will be useful for existing trainees, who will be able to access important information about their rotation locations, and also to perspective trainees who will be making their decisions about which region they wish to apply to. This information can be found [here](#)

FFICM examination information

As you will all be aware, the FFICM examination is compulsory for all Single and Dual CCT trainees. This will need to be completed in full during Stage 2 of your training. Please note that upon completion of Stage 1, your Regional Advisor will need to confirm this by sending a Stage 1 Completion certificate to the Faculty. Failure to do this could result in delays in your examination application being accepted and could result in you missing an examination diet. It is advised that all trainees should contact their Regional Advisors in good time to ensure that all of their paperwork is in order ahead of making an examination application.

For those trainees who are undertaking ICM training under the old “Joint” system, the Faculty recommends that you complete Intermediate ICM (which includes your complementary medicine) training before voluntarily attempting the examination, owing to the level at which the examination is set. Please note that it is not compulsory for Joint trainees to sit the examination.

Details about the FFICM examination, including the regulations, dates and fees can be found [here](#) .

ICM ePortfolio

The ICM ePortfolio is coming! The Faculty have been working hard with NES to produce an ePortfolio which will work for ICM trainees and trainers alike. Those of you who have undertaken Foundation training will be familiar with the NES ePortfolio system. The system will be piloted by an already selected group of trainees ahead of its eventual release in August 2014.

It would be extremely helpful if all Single and Dual ICM trainees who are training under the new system could get back to us confirming whether they have NHS ePortfolio log in details already (it is likely that you will, if you have previously undertaken Foundation Training, or if you are a Dual trainee in Emergency Medicine, Acute Medicine, Renal Medicine or Respiratory Medicine, as the CEM and RCP also use the NES system. Specifically we will need:

- NHS ePortfolio User Name
- GMC Number
- Email address (attributed to the ePortfolio account).

If you could get back regarding the above, it would be very much appreciated.

It has been agreed by the FICM Training and Assessment Committee and the FICM ePortfolio Working Group that the Faculty will not ask trainees to retrospectively fill in the ePortfolio. Instead it has been agreed that trainees will need to provide information in full when they progress to the

their next stage of training (which in the case of current trainees will be Stage 2). You will of course be welcome to, indeed be encouraged to, start using the system as soon as it is available so as to familiarise yourself with it.

As with all things new, it may be that the system is not perfect right away – the Faculty have been testing and making amendments to it and feel confident that the system is ready to be launched. Please do bear with us with this, and please do provide constructive feedback when the time comes – it will be listened to.

Please note that the ICM ePortfolio system is mapped to the new ICM curriculum so as such, is only available to ICM trainees who are undertaking Single or Dual ICM. Joint CCT trainees should continue with their paper based portfolios.

ICM Regional Advisors

The ICM Regional Advisors are instrumental to the delivery of your ICM training, liaising with your TPDs and negotiating with other specialties on your behalf to ensure that you obtain the training that you require to get your CCT. As you have registered with the Faculty, and you needed to liaise with your Regional Advisor to do this, you will most likely know who they are already, however if you don't, these are all listed [here](#). If you do not already have their contact details then please do let the Faculty know and we can provide them – it's always good to have these to hand in case you have any urgent enquiries.

FICM Trainee Representation

Further to earlier correspondence, the Faculty requested nominations for 2 new trainee representatives to replace Dr Mike McAlindon who comes to the end of his Term at the October 2014 Board meeting. Consequently 6 trainees put themselves forward and voting for these candidates is now open. You will have been sent a ballot paper in the post, so please do complete this and get it back to us by the closing date (5pm on Thursday 3rd April). In the interim if you wish to contact Mr McAlindon, please continue to do so.

National Recruitment update

As those of you who have been appointed to Single or Dual ICM training will know, recruitment is now done centrally for England, Northern Ireland and Wales via the West Midlands Deanery (for those trainees applying for Dual ICM training in Scotland this is done via the SMT). The 2014 recruitment round is well underway. The number of posts advertised for 2014 is currently 102 compared to 88 in 2013, which shows that the specialty is expanding. Further details can be found [here](#).

Behind the scenes – trainee records

It is vitally important that you keep the Faculty informed of your training dates as you progress through your training. Such information allows us to track your progress through training and also give us an overview of how the training programme is being shaped nationally. It is also gives the Faculty the opportunity to review information and highlight any issues in training plans before it is too late for rotations to change. This will reduce the likelihood for a delay in obtaining your CCT in the long run.

As soon as your future rotations are released, please email the FICM general inbox (ficm@rcoa.ac.uk) so that the records can be updated.

Faculty News

The Faculty are involved in promoting and representing the views of the profession. We do this in a number of ways including through responding to public consultations, including those from NICE, the AoMRC and many others. Details of these consultations, and the Faculty's responses to them can be found [here](#).

We have also been working alongside the RCoA in completing a specialty review, run by the Centre for Workforce Intelligence (CfWI). It is anticipated that the report will be published in Autumn 2014. Updates will be available from the [FICM website](#) when they are available. Further information on this is also available via the latest edition of *Critical Eye*, the FICM newsletter which is sent out to all Fellows, Members and CCT trainees (please note that this is a bi-annual newsletter, currently released in January in an electronic format and in August in a paper format) which can be found [here](#).

The Faculty is also running a workforce census for ICM which is being sent out to all Fellows and Members. It is hoped that this information will provide a valuable insight into the workforce situation for ICM which in turn will influence the amount of training posts available in the future. Trainees are not being asked to complete this census as the Faculty already obtains data from trainees via the trainee survey. Whilst workforce censuses are in their infancy for ICM, it is hoped that this will become an annual occurrence so that we can build up some reliable workforce data in the future, which will be hugely beneficial across all of our activities, not least in regards to training. The census is currently out to all Fellows and Members and is due to close at the end of May 2014. When the results are analysed, a summary will be available from the FICM website.

The Faculty have also been keenly observing and responding to the recent "Shape of Training" report, which proposes a shift in the way that training is delivered in the future. Whilst, nothing is concretely set as yet, this is something that could have a profound impact on our future activities and more importantly for our trainees in the future. If you have not already done so, it would be worth reading a summary of the report, as well as the article in the most recent edition of *Critical Eye* written by the outgoing TAC chair Dr Simon Baudouin and also the Faculty response to the report which can be found [here](#).

Alongside partners, the Faculty have launched a Core Standards for Intensive Care Units documents which has been well received and is of relevance across the profession, from consultant to trainee alike. For more information, please see [here](#).

Contacting the Faculty

The Faculty would recommend that if you have any queries regarding your training, you contact your ICM Regional Advisor in the first instance. This is because they will have a greater understanding of local issues which will be affecting you, and they are more likely to be able to advise on a solution as a consequence. However, the Faculty are very happy to advise where possible and we would encourage trainees to do so via the FICM inbox: ficm@rcoa.ac.uk

The future

We hope that you have found this Faculty update useful. Please do let us know your thoughts on this. If you have any ideas of what might be useful to include in the future then please do get in touch – we would welcome your suggestions!

Best wishes,

The FICM Team.