Clinical Radiology Curriculum Mapping and Implementation – 2016

Current Curriculum

2016 Curriculum – changes from the previous (2015) version

- Revision to the ARCP grid (a) to reflect the change to the Final FRCR Part A Examination from six modules taken over a two year period to a single examination composed of two papers. The revised grid accommodates those who started training after August 2015 and will take the examination in its new format; and (b) to include other minor revisions for clarity

- Removal of level 2 vascular radiology competencies from the CR curriculum. These will now appear solely in the IR subspecialty training curriculum to reflect the highly subspecialist nature of these activities. The vascular radiology diagnosis table has been revised to differentiate between level 1 (in CR and IR) and level 2 (in IR)

- Quality Improvement Project Assessment Tool (QIPAT) - A Quality Improvement Project and Audit Assessment Tool (QIPAT) has been introduced as a replacement for the current Audit Assessment (AA) tool to cover both clinical audit and QI projects.

- Minor revision to the clinical and generic content to reflect current clinical radiology practice

- Revision to the Scientific Basis of Imaging component to reinforce the importance of acquiring and retaining this knowledge to underpin later stages of practice

- Removal of the provision for Focussed Individualised Training (FIT) – the curriculum is considered flexible enough to accommodate an individual’s requirements

- Extensive revision of generic curriculum Section B – the radiology reporting and communications elements of the Good Clinical Care section – to better reflect current radiological practice. Sections B3 (Overall Clinical Judgement) and B7 (Breaking Bad News) have been removed and relevant material included elsewhere

Transition mapping from 2015 to 2016 curriculum

Only minor adjustments to training are to be expected from these revisions; the structure of training is unchanged and there are no additional assessment requirements to be considered. Therefore, all trainees are required to transfer to the 2016 curriculum and assessment system from their next ARCP after 1 February 2017. They will not be required to revisit or repeat training in any core, level 1 or level 2 radiology topics. No transition will be required for trainees in their final year of training.

Final FRCR Part A Examination – the Autumn 2017 sitting will be the last modular examination available to all candidates. The new examination format will apply from December 2017 and generally to trainees who started training after August 2015. Trainees who started training prior to August 2015 are expected to complete the examination in the previous, modular format by Autumn 2017.

Transition arrangements have previously been agreed with the GMC for those who have not completed the examination by Autumn 2017. Candidates who have not passed at least three modules in or by Autumn 2017 will be required to move to the new, single examination from Spring 2018. Candidates who have passed at least three modules in or by Autumn 2017 are permitted to complete the remaining modules over a maximum period of one year (two sittings).
More detailed information about the examination, the eligibility requirements and the transition to the new format can be seen on our website here.

Removal of level 2 vascular radiology competencies from the clinical radiology curriculum - this will only affect a very few trainees who are undertaking special interest training in vascular intervention in the final year of their CR training. Clinical radiology trainees who started training in level 2 vascular radiology competencies prior to the publication of this curriculum are entitled to complete this before their end of training.

Quality Improvement Project Assessment Tool - Completion of the existing Audit Assessment tool will be sufficient to meet the curriculum requirements for ARCP, so trainees will not be required to repeat any audit or QI project. We therefore anticipate full implementation of QIPAT from end of summer 2017.

Previous Curricula

Details of the changes to previous versions of the curriculum and the mapping and implementation requirements can be found on our website along with the previous curriculum versions.

December 2016