



# Royal College of Anaesthetists

## Training Programme Update

**Nbr: 03/2013**

**Date: Dec 2013**

### Timing of Advanced Training

#### Background

The Training Committee have recently discussed the regulations regarding the timing of advanced level training within the anaesthetic training programme.

This issue has been highlighted following the appointment of a trainee to a sub-specialty training programme in Pre-Hospital Emergency Medicine (PHEM) at ST5. Currently the CCT Curriculum states that advanced level training may commence in ST6; this implies that it cannot occur at ST5. The Training department has also seen an increasing number of Out Of Programme for Training (OOPT) applications entail advanced level training being undertaken prior to ST6.

The Training Committee's view is that advanced level training should normally be delivered in ST6 or 7 to ensure that trainees have received this level of training as close to CCT as possible. However a pragmatic approach needs to be taken on a case by case basis when advanced level training opportunities are at a premium and only available for an individual trainee for delivery in ST5.

The College has reviewed the policy in the CCT Curriculum and has revised the wording which will be formally published in the next iteration of the curriculum, following GMC approval next year. In the interim, the Training Committee has agreed that that only in exceptional circumstances should a trainee undertake advanced training during ST5, and approval of this is the responsibility of the Chair of the Training Committee.

#### Procedure

All requests to undertake advanced level training in ST5 require prospective approval from the Chair of the Training Committee. Failure to receive prospective approval will invalidate the training and will cause delay to the trainee's completion date.

The process is as follows:

- A letter must be sent to the Training Department from the Programme Director, or Regional Adviser [or Deputy] explaining why the advanced level of training must be delivered prior to ST6 and why the trainee should be permitted to undertake it.

- The Chair of the Training Committee will respond to the request in writing with either 'approved' or 'not approved'. If not approved, reasons for the decision will be included.
- If the decision is 'not approved', this may be appealed against by responding to the reasons in the Chair of the Training Committee's decision letter.
- A copy of the letter will be added to the trainee's file in the College.

**Commencement Date: Immediate effect**

**Review: N/A**