

trainee eye

5th Edition; March 2016

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Welcome!

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

The aim of this newsletter is to open up channels of communication, and also highlight information that is directly relevant to trainees, and also to the wider ICM community.

FICM website

We are currently working on a new FICM website which we hope to launch in May 2016. Once released, we would welcome your thoughts on the content for trainees, and topics you feel we should add in the future. Get in touch by emailing us [here](#).

Don't forget we also have the [Useful Innovations](#) section to our Trainee page, for trainees and trainers to promote useful articles and websites for education. If you use a particular site or tool locally that you feel should be included please get in touch.

FFICM examination information

[FFICM Exam Prep course](#)

The next FFICM OSCE/SOE Exam prep course will be held on the 22nd/23rd of September 2016 in Leeds. Booking will open shortly so please keep an eye on the website news releases and twitter for further information.

Please note that this is an OSCE/SOE prep course aimed at those preparing for this section of the exam, we will not be covering MCQ preparation at this event.

Keep up to date with the details of this and future courses by visiting the [website](#) regularly.

[FFICM Examination news](#)

The Faculty has decided that it will, on a case-by-case basis, listen to requests from trainees who wish to sit the MCQ component of the FFICM in the very late phase of their Stage 1 training. This is on the proviso that the MCQ sitting in question falls in the **last few weeks** of the trainee's Stage 1 training and that the trainee's Regional Advisor confirms that the trainee is on course to complete all of their required Stage 1 competencies.

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

Please note the next FFICM MCQ will take place at the RCoA on Tuesday the 12th July 2016. The application window for this sitting opens on the 11th April 2016 and closes on the 2nd June 2016.

[FFICM Examination and HMRC Tax Exemption](#)

The Faculty recently had an issue brought to its attention by one of our trainees. It has become clear that some trainees have experienced problems when claiming tax exemption for the FFICM Examinations. We have explored this with the Royal College of Anaesthetists Finance Director and the issue stems from the legal status of the Faculty. Although we have a professional presence, as we are in governance terms part of the RCoA, we do not have a separate legal presence and therefore HMRC will not recognise any claims made against FICM activities.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/professional-bodies-approved-for-tax-relief-list-3/approved-professional-organisations-and-learned-societies#a>

In future, the Faculty recommends that trainees should ensure they (or their tax accountants) make claims for the FFICM Examination avoiding reference to the Faculty and using wording similar to that below:

“Please find as enclosed a claim for tax exemption for the MCQ / SOE / OSCE component of this Royal College of Anaesthetists Fellowship examination.”

If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact the Faculty by return email. Additionally, if anyone experiences further difficulties with HMRC despite following the advice above, we would be keen to hear from them ficm@rcoa.ac.uk

ICM ePortfolio

The Faculty have produced a targeted guidance document for trainees, which is included [here](#). It is also available on the ePortfolio, under the Information section, and from the FICM [website](#).

I am also pleased to announce we have added two trainees to the ePortfolio Sub-committee, Dr Dafydd Williams and Dr Hywel Garrard. Their introductions and contact details are below for you to use to discuss thoughts and suggestions on the ePortfolio platform with them as required.

ePortfolio trainee representative introductions

We'd like to introduce ourselves as the new FICM ePortfolio trainees' representatives. We hope to represent trainees' views on the development of ePortfolio, a platform which is essential for our training.

Hywel Garrard – I'm a dual trainee with anaesthesia in the North West and currently on portfolio number five, four of which have been electronic!

Dafydd Williams – I'm a single speciality ICM trainee in Wales, and have used several ePortfolio versions during my training and have seen the system improve greatly since the beginning of electronic portfolios.

As with all of these there is room for improvement and we are keen to make the ICM ePortfolio as user friendly and educationally sound as possible.

We'd like to highlight some recent improvements to the ePortfolio, such as the addition of the top 30 cases, stage of training certificates and some of the maintained competencies in the stage 2 and 3 curriculum, which are now located in separate folders titled 'maintenance competencies' for easy identification and sign off. We have also added a Special Skills Year completion certificate; this form can be completed by RAs, TPDs and the named Educational Supervisor. There are some other things in the pipeline such as Stage 1 curricula appropriate to core training experience.

We are always looking to improve the ePortfolio here on the Sub-committee, but have finite resources and would like to make changes that benefit the most trainees within the constraints of the technology platform. It is because of this we would very much like to hear your suggestions about the ePortfolio. There is a link to a survey below, which will also be emailed to you in the next few weeks. It would really help us to steer changes if we know what trainees want from the ePortfolio.

You can complete the survey by following this link;

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ICM_ePortfolio_Survey

In the meantime, if you wish to contact us, please do so via Susan Hall at FICM (Shall@rcoa.ac.uk)

Some further planned changes to let you know about are as follows;

- Ticket requests – when an assessor has previously been sent a ticket, they can complete it or ignore it until it expires. NES have now added the option to decline it with a mandatory comment. So the assessor could request more information or advise if they have received it in error. There will be an advice note present so that the assessor is clear that whatever they write in that box will be seen by the tickets sender.

- Ticket completion – currently if the ticket assessor follows the ticket link and then selects the option of ‘do not keep records’ in some cases it takes them through to the form options but does not allow them to create/complete the assessment. When they put the cursor over the greyed out create button they just get a red cross. NES are going to add text to the system that will advise the assessor why the form is greyed out – i.e. signature required so go back and select the ‘keep records’ option.
- Finally NES are also planning to add a search box to the trainee’s home page so that you can search a form type from the home page and be taken straight to it. This should make navigating the sites assessments quick and easy for you.

We will advise you when these are live and update the user guides as required.

Offline smartphone app

For your information there is an offline application available for the ePortfolio, further details on this and how to obtain it can be found [here](#)

Please Note:

Although the Faculty has editing-admin control over information added to the portfolio, we do not have any control over the back-end software that runs the system; this is entirely controlled by NES. If you contact the NES helpdesk please be aware that they refer ***all*** queries to the colleges/faculties as a matter of routine, even if the issue is a back-end one. Faculty staff will do our best to help you with any problem you are experiencing, but please be aware that if the issue is software related we will be unable to fix them and will have to raise a central helpdesk problem with the NES programmers to resolve the issue.

e-ICM (e-Learning for Intensive Care Medicine)

The Faculty has successfully sourced funding from e-Learning for Healthcare to develop an e-Learning resource for ICM training. Named e-ICM, it will build upon existing content in the Critical Care section of e-Learning for Anaesthesia (as well as content in other e-learning programmes), to develop e-Learning content covering Stage 1 of the curriculum.

The project is being led by Dr Pete Hersey (Clinical Lead), Dr Sarah Marsh (Deputy Clinical Lead) and Daniel Waeland (Project Management Lead). We are currently in the development stage, but **if you would like to put yourself forward as a potential author, please contact us through ficm@rcoa.ac.uk**

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

Welcome to the latest edition of Trainee Eye. Anna Batchelor always asks 'are the trainees happy?' during the FICM board meetings and we're not sure where to start in answering the inevitable in April's forthcoming meeting. It's been a pretty miserable time for everyone of late, but I thought that I'd take this opportunity to reassure you that everything that can be done to secure your future is being done. There is a lot of work going on behind the scenes, not just from the faculty, but importantly the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Trainee Doctors Group (ATDG). You may not have come across the ATDG but they have worked tirelessly in recent weeks to express the dismay of junior doctors across all the medical specialties' represented by the AoMRC. In particular, we have lobbied not just the Secretary of State, but have also been involved in direct communication with Prof Dame Sue Bailey, to express our deep concerns surrounding Mr Hunt's inquiry into the apparent morale issues plaguing the medical workforce. The irony has not been lost on any of us.

It is unclear what might happen over the forthcoming months, and we are all desperately hoping a solution to this can be found. On a personal level, it is unthinkable to me that, in 2016, our government sees fit to impose terms and conditions on an entire profession.

Ian Kerslake, FICM Trainee Representative
iankerslake@nhs.net

I'd like to take this opportunity to briefly introduce myself, my name is Jamie and I'm a dual trainee with anaesthesia in Wessex. Thanks to all of you who kindly voted for me to represent you late last year as Ian's deputy. I look forward to representing your views to the faculty as best as I possibly can over the coming two years. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any issues that you feel the board need to hear.

Jamie Plumb, FICM Trainee Representative Elect
jamiplumb@me.com

If you have an article of interest, for example an OOPE or a fellowship that you have done, or perhaps some research that you are involved in then please do send it in for future editions.

Please also remember there is a section of the FICM website called [Career Stories](#) where we invite trainees to discuss their experiences as an ICM trainee, whether dual or single. If you would like to submit a piece for inclusion on the website please email [FICM](#). We do not currently have any single ICM trainees represented so if you are a single ICM trainee please consider adding your story to this section.

Faculty News

Events

FICM Annual Meeting

PLEASE CIRCULATE AND ENCOURAGE YOUR COLLEAGUES TO ATTEND

The FICM Annual Meeting, Bombs, Bullets, Blood and Bugs will be taking place on **Friday 1ST July 2016** and attendance is strongly encouraged. The programme has been finalised and bookings are now open on the [website](#) where there is a discounted rate for trainees.

RCoA Events of interest

The RCoA will be holding a LTFT Matters training day in London on Thursday the 26th of May. Details can be found [here](#)

CONSULTATIONS

The FICM keep abreast of relevant consultations from various organisations. Recent consultations to which the FICM have commented include:

- The Law Commission – Mental Capacity and Deprivation of Liberty
- GMC – Credentialing
- NICE – Care of the dying adult
- NICE – Transition from Child to Adult services
- GMC – Confidentiality
- NICE – Sepsis
- All Party Parliamentary Group on Global Health – Review of Nursing

The CCT in Intensive Care Medicine

The Faculty has been undertaking development of a number of additional Special Skills Year modules to add to those available in Part V of the CCT curriculum.

The Faculty has submitted an Education Special Skills Year module to the GMC for inclusion in Part V of the CCT curriculum; if approved, this will be added into the curriculum in summer 2016.

A Microbiology SSY module is also under development, this will be submitted to the GMC for approval in 2017.

Training

We are aware that many of you are now making the progression from stage 1 to stage 2 of the new curriculum. Once you have been issued with your Stage 1 Certificate please email a copy to the Faculty. Your training record will then be updated and your ePortfolio account will be linked to stage 2 of the curriculum. Please ensure your certificate is completed and signed/stamped as required before sending it in.

WORKFORCE

The Faculty's 2016 Consultant Workforce census is now open and we are hoping for a similar (or better) response as 2015. The full 2015 report will be available following the next FICM Board meeting at the end of April.

The FICM held the first of its Regional Workforce Meetings in Wales in November 2015; the attendees found the meeting useful and feedback was positive. The Engagement was designed to generate regional workforce data that will make it easier for the clinicians in the region and the Faculty to champion more training posts. The discussions generated some key issues faced by ICM services across Wales and the final report will be shared with the Trusts, Health Boards and Welsh Government. The next is planned for the West Midlands in May and early preparations are underway for more, later in 2016 and early 2017.

GUIDELINES FOR THE PROVISION OF INTENSIVE CARE SERVICES (GPICS)

GPICS (version 1) was published in April 2015 following extensive public consultation; we will be starting work on GPICS V.2 in 2017. You can view the complete document here:

[Guidelines for the Provision of Intensive Care Services \(GPICS\)](#)

CRITICAL EYE

The latest edition of Critical Eye is now online and can be viewed here: [Critical Eye: Issue 9 2016](#). The issue focuses on the Faculty tackling the big questions with regards to Intensive Care Medicine.

Contacting the Faculty

The Faculty would recommend that if you have any queries regarding your training, you contact your ICM Faculty Tutor and Regional Advisor in the first instance. This is because they will have a greater understanding of local issues which may 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 get in touch 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