



The Royal College of Pathologists
Pathology: the science behind the cure

**Transitional arrangements to the 2021 GMC-approved curricula and assessment system,
incorporating Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) derogation guidance for
Cellular Pathology: Histopathology, Diagnostic Neuropathology, Paediatric and Perinatal
Pathology and Forensic Histopathology 2022**

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Celebrating our Diamond Jubilee

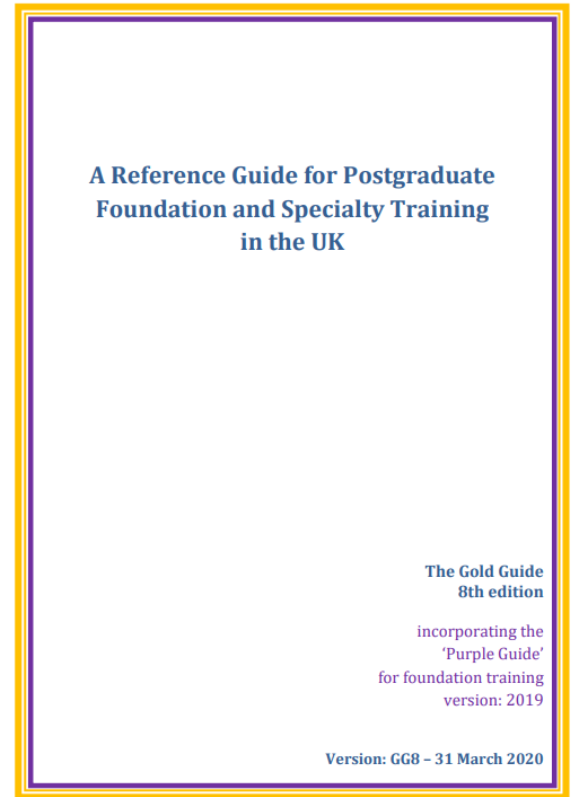
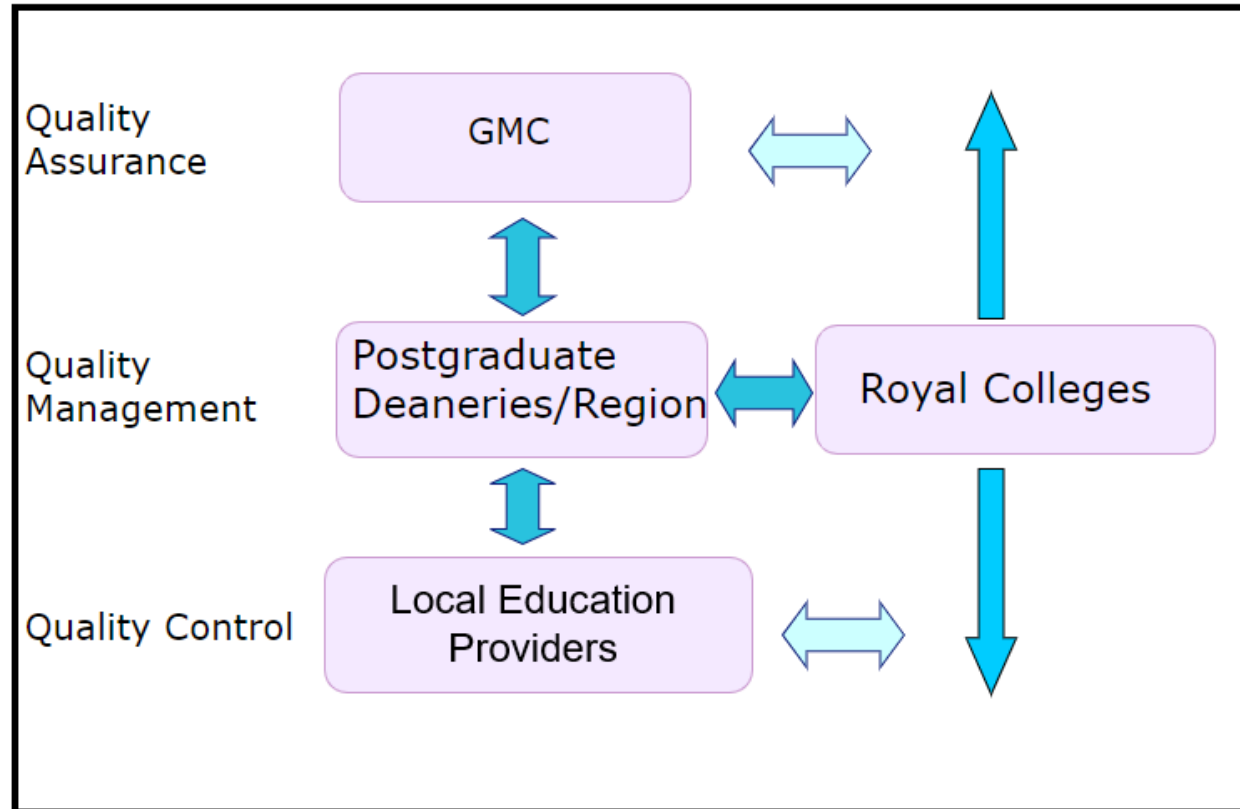


Pathology:
at the heart
of your health
Celebrating our Diamond Jubilee

Introduction

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- ARCP derogations for 2022
- Transitional arrangements and general principles
- Preparing for the ARCP
- How the ARCP outcome maps to the new curriculum
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Deanery and College roles and responsibilities



ARCP derogations

- Throughout the pandemic, the Medical Royal Colleges have worked collaboratively to support trainees and trainers and mitigate against the impact of the disruption on trainees' progression.
- In September 2021, the GMC confirmed that the approved derogations would remain in place throughout the period of disruption caused by the pandemic.
- To support ARCP panels and to aid flexibility, we have developed joint transitional arrangements and ARCP derogation guidance.
- These transitional arrangements are for the Cellular Pathology NTN holders in a GMC-approved UK training programme (leading to the award of the CCT or CESR(CP)) who are transferring to the relevant 2021 GMC-approved UK curriculum and assessment system.

Transitional arrangements

- These transitional arrangements apply to trainees who entered the relevant training programme prior to 1 August 2021 and are on either the 2015 histopathology or the 2012 diagnostic neuropathology/paediatric and perinatal pathology/forensic histopathology GMC- approved curricula.
- The only exception to this applies to trainees who have passed the FRCPath Part 2 examination and whose provisional CCT date is on or before 31 July 2023.
- As a guide the GMC consider two years from the curriculum implementation date to be a reasonable transition period for all trainees (including less than full-time trainees) to have moved to new curricula.
- Trainees in their final year of training with a CCT date on or before 31 July 2023, or for whom it would not be in the interests of patient safety or impractical to support moving to a new curriculum, will normally remain on the curriculum in place prior to the new approval.

General Principles

- Trainees transferring to the relevant 2021 GMC-approved UK curricula and assessment system will not be able to revert to their previous curriculum.
- Trainees transferring curriculum should proceed to the relevant ST year, e.g. a trainee who has satisfactorily completed ST4 in their existing curriculum should proceed to ST5 in their new curriculum.
- To ensure the maintenance of the educational quality, standards, and integrity in the transition from the existing GMC approved curricula.
- To ensure fairness and equity for all trainees.
- To ensure that curriculum capabilities and mapping are undertaken by the LETBs/Deaneries.
- To minimise disruption as trainees' progress to CCT/CESR(CP).

Recommended minimum data sets for each year of training

For the 2022 ARCPs, it is expected that the Educational Supervisors Structured Report (ESSR) will be a key part of the evidence.

The portfolio of evidence provided by the trainee for the period under review can include:

- any workplace-based assessments completed. The number of workplace-based assessments required for each year or stage of training is indicative. These can include any undertaken during redeployment which demonstrates evidence of generic or other relevant skills;
- any indicative cases undertaken;
- an MSF (although trainees who have not completed a required MSF but are otherwise satisfactory must undertake their MSF in the following year).
- suitable and appropriate alternative evidence (see 'Learning Experiences' listed in each curriculum for guidance).
- any College exams completed.

Preparation prior to the ARCP

- Trainees will first need to meet with their educational supervisor to discuss the transfer in preparation for their ARCP.
- The trainee with their educational supervisor must review all their training and highlight any training gaps. The educational supervisor will recommend where they will progress on the 2021 curriculum.
- In preparation for the ARCP, the educational supervisor must state in the trainee's ESSRs the capabilities identify that the trainees still need to meet in the new curriculum and recommend a provisional CCT date to the ARCP panel.
- From the point at which trainees transfer into the relevant 2022 GMC-approved curriculum and assessment system, they will have to complete all the subsequent curriculum and assessment requirements within the relevant GMC-approved programme. Trainees will not have to go back and complete previous training requirements.

Preparation prior to the ARCP

- Trainees will still have to achieve all curriculum requirements in the indicative training period for the award of the CCT which will be five years (if trainees do not wish to undertake the optional training packages in cervical cytology or higher autopsy training).
- If a trainee's provisional CCT date is around 31 July 2023, the College will allow some flexibility as to whether the trainee is required to transfer. The trainee/educational supervisor should contact College to discuss further prior to confirming arrangements.
- It is recognised that there will be some trainees with exceptional circumstances and therefore it is recommended that you contact the College in order that we can discuss and agree on an appropriate way forward. This may include the need to contact the General Medical Council for further advice

Example transition from 2015 to 2021 Histopathology curriculum ST2(Stage B) to ST3

- ARCP preparation for Spring / Summer 2022 follows 2015 curriculum requirements.
- If you are currently a ST2 (Stage B) trainee, coming to the end of your training year, your ARCP should satisfy the curriculum outcomes for the 2015 curriculum (including the indicative case numbers, WBAs and hopefully FRCPPath part 1) in order to achieve an outcome 1.

Stage B

Stage B of training is a minimum of 12 months and a maximum of 18 months whole time equivalent.

The aims of this stage are to:

- broaden experience and understanding of histopathology
- provide a short practical introduction to paediatric pathology (either stage A or B, recommended 2 weeks total)
- provide a short practical introduction to neuropathology (either stage A or B, recommended 2 weeks total)
- develop a basic knowledge base in cytopathology and autopsy pathology
- broaden experience and understanding of molecular pathology.

Competencies required to exit stage B:

- independent cut-up of all simple specimens
- independent cut-up of all common larger specimens (including mastectomy, prostatectomy, complex hysterectomy and, pneumonectomy specimens etc)
- ability to primary screen cervical samples
- ability to write an appropriate report for a wide range of histopathology and cytopathology specimens (including more complex specimens than those described for stage A above)
- ability to report straight forward frozen sections
- ability to demonstrate effective time management and task prioritisation
- independent evisceration and dissection of more complex autopsies (at least some of those described as 'Complex post-mortems for observation' in stage A curriculum content)
- ability to report autopsy histopathology
- an autopsy report including appropriate clinicopathological correlation for a more complex case (as described above).

This is a competency based curriculum and as such there are no absolute minimum numbers. However, it is anticipated that most trainees will achieve the competencies required with the minimum practical experience detailed below (based on 12 months spent in stage; increased pro rata for extended stage):

surgical histopathology	750 cases
cytopathology	200 cervical and 200 non-cervical cytopathology cases, which may either be new screening or diagnostic cases, or be seen in the context of teaching sets with appropriate structured feedback from an experienced trainer
autopsy pathology	20 adult autopsies, 2 paediatric/ perinatal autopsies
audit	completion of 1 audit

Assessments:	
workplace-based assessments	18 in total, 12 directed (see Appendix 5)
FRCPPath Part 1 educational supervisor's report	pass (can be taken anytime after entry in stage B)
ARCP	satisfactory
	satisfactory outcome (1 or 2)

Example transition from 2015 to 2021 Histopathology curriculum ST2(Stage B) to ST3

- It may be helpful for the ES and trainee to highlight in the ESSR, examples of learning opportunities in the 2021 curriculum for ST1 and ST2 not detailed in the 2015 curriculum that the trainee has covered so far.
- Identify areas where the trainee may need support to achieve learning opportunities required for new curriculum.

CIP 7: Able to self-appraise, learn and adapt.

Time (FTE months of training)	Descriptor: Demonstrates or practises appropriate:		
	Reflective learning strategies to aid learning and improve performance	Application of knowledge to adapt to new clinical situations	Effective working with different teams, departments, professional groups and external agencies
1-12	Grows and reflects upon pathology-related knowledge and understanding, given patient-facing expertise developed in foundation training	Applies pathology learning to basic cases and preparation of reports in relation to the clinical context	Engages with and contributes to teamwork
13-24	Consolidates a structured personal approach, allowing time for regular reflection to improve personal performance	Applies and adapts knowledge routinely in the work-up of a wide range of routine cases Can identify when clinical data is incomplete and when it should be sought	Routinely works with a range of different teams within and without the department, in a range of contexts
25-30	Applies guidance from national organisations to improve reflection and work constructively with others	Demonstrates deeper knowledge and understanding in less standard clinical scenarios	Demonstrates progression of skills relating to teamwork with a variety of colleagues

Example transition from 2015 to 2021 Histopathology curriculum ST2(Stage B) to ST3

To help with transition to the new curriculum:

- ES and trainee look at training requirements for ST3 in the 2021 curriculum learning map.
- Develop a forward looking plan for achieving the curriculum Capabilities in Practice.

Appendix A: Learning map for integrated cellular pathology training (ICPT)

Generic CiPs

CiP 1: Able to function effectively within healthcare and other organisational and management systems to deliver consistent high-quality patient care.

Time (FTE months of training)	Descriptor: Demonstrates or practises appropriate:				
	Awareness of and adherence to GMC professional requirements	Recognition of public health issues including population health, social determinants of health, and global health perspectives	Promotion of an open and transparent culture	Engagement in career planning	Ability to deal with complexity and uncertainty
1-12	Practice follows GMC guidance Prepares training portfolio in a timely manner for ARCP	Aware of basic local, national and international population health demographics and national public health issues	Shares information freely and appropriately Engages in peer learning with emphasis on shared learning from mistakes	Understands the remit of the four cellular pathology specialties and what being a good pathologist entails Is positive about career choice Plans timing of exams	Recognises own limitations in practice Seeks advice and help Understands how pathology reports are worded in varied contexts
13-24	Adheres to GMC professional requirements	Can put general public health issues into a wider context based on up-to-date information and apply to clinical practice	Learns reflectively from own mistakes and those of others Takes an open approach regarding reporting errors	Engages with training opportunities Explores small specialty training opportunities Takes appropriate advice around sitting Part I FRCPPath	Anticipates when a straightforward pathological diagnosis may not be appropriate Can seek an external opinion
25-30	Can reflect on and discuss professional requirements	Appraises relevant individual and public health using a range of available data	Promotes a positive, open and honest working environment	Begins to plan for further exams and to explore specialist practice Develops and plans SMART audit, research and education experience commensurate with interest	Takes a structured approach to assessing complex cases and writing reports to convey complexity, appropriate uncertainty and clinicopathological correlation

Cellular Pathology ST1

Curricular component	Comment	Recommended ARCP outcome	Recommended Action
COVID-19 has caused disruption to training including redeployment	E.g., Limitation of exposure to specimen range and experience, MDT, courses, QIPs and research opportunities.	ARCP 10.1	Move to relevant specialty training year in ICPT curriculum.
No disruption to training	Trainee on course to complete requirements for year of training, including acquisition of relevant examination. Assessment of Practice completed.	ARCP 1	Move to ST2 ICPT curriculum.
No disruption to training	Concerns raised about trainee (e.g., including general progress, <u>probity</u> and patient safety)	ARCP 2, 3 or ARCP 4 (with a preceding outcome 3)	Move to relevant specialty training year in ICPT curriculum.

Cellular Pathology ST2

Curricular component	Comment	Recommended ARCP outcome	Recommended Action
Covid has caused disruption to training including redeployment	E. g. Limitation of exposure to specimen range and experience, MDT, courses, QIPs and research opportunities.	ARCP10.1	Move to relevant specialty training year in ICPT curriculum.
No disruption to training	Trainee on course to complete requirements for year of training, including acquisition of relevant examination.	ARCP 1	Move to ST3 ICPT (progressing to HST after 30 months or WTE).
No disruption to training	Concerns raised about trainee (e.g., including general progress, <u>probity</u> and patient safety)	ARCP 2, 3, or 4	Move to relevant specialty training year in ICPT curriculum.

Cellular Pathology/Histopathology/Diagnostic Neuropathology/Forensic Histopathology/Paediatric and Perinatal Pathology ST3

Curricular component	Comment	Recommended ARCP outcome	Recommended Action
Covid has caused disruption to training including redeployment	E. g. Limitation of exposure to specimen range and experience, MDT, courses, QIPs and research opportunities.	ARCP10.1	Move to the relevant ST3 point. For trainees being moved to ST3 in the 2021 curriculum, it should be confirmed if this is to the ICPT curriculum or HST curriculum. Acquisition of FRCPath Part 1 is required for transition to ST3 HST.
FRCPath Part 1 examination not passed	Completion necessary for progress to HST in 2021 curriculum. Balance between satisfactory progress and pressurising by extra requirements in already busy curriculum.	ARCP 10.2 (if due to COVID-19) or ARCP 3 (if not due to COVID-19)	Move to relevant point in ST3 ICPT curriculum.
No disruption to training	Trainee on course to complete requirements for year of training, including acquisition of relevant examination and coverage of ICPT curriculum.	ARCP 1	Move to ST4 HST. Acquisition of FRCPath Part 1 is required for transition to HST.
No disruption to training (passed FRCPath Part 1)	Concerns raised about trainee (e.g., including general progress, probity and patient safety)	ARCP 2, 3, or 4	Move to the relevant ST3 point. For trainees being moved to ST3 in the 2021 curriculum, it should be confirmed if this is to the ICPT curriculum or HST curriculum. Acquisition of FRCPath Part 1 is required for transition to ST3 HST.

Histopathology/Diagnostic Neuropathology/Forensic Histopathology/Paediatric and Perinatal Pathology ST4

Curricular component	Comment	Recommended ARCP outcome	Recommended Action
Covid has caused disruption to training including redeployment	E. g. Limitation of exposure to specimen range and experience, MDT, courses, QIPs and research opportunities.	ARCP 10.1	Remain on current curriculum if CCT date on or before 31 July 2023 (assuming expected pass in FRCPPath Part 2 by November 2022) or Move to ST5 in the appropriate HST curriculum if CCT date after 31 July 2023 and/or FRCPPath Part 2 expected to be passed from May 2023.
FRCPPath Part 2 examination not passed ARCP	Completion necessary for progress to ST5. Balance between satisfactory progress and pressurising by extra requirements in already busy curriculum.	ARCP 10.2 or ARCP 3 (if not due to COVID-19)	Remain on current curriculum if CCT date on or before 31 July 2023 (assuming expected pass in FRCPPath Part 2 by November 2022) or Move to ST5 in the appropriate HST curriculum if CCT date after 31 July 2023 and/or FRCPPath Part 2 expected to be passed from May 2023.
No disruption to training (passed FRCPPath Part 2)	Trainee on course to complete requirements for year of training, including acquisition of relevant examination.	ARCP 1	Remain on current curriculum if CCT date on or before 31 July 2023 or Move to ST5 in the appropriate HST curriculum if CCT date after 31 July 2023.
No disruption to training (passed FRCPPath Part 2)	Concerns raised about trainee (e.g., including general progress, probity and patient safety)	ARCP 2, 3 ARCP 4 (with a preceding outcome 3)	Remain on current curriculum if CCT date on or before 31 July 2023 or Move to ST5 in the appropriate HST curriculum if CCT date after 31 July 2023.

Histopathology/Diagnostic Neuropathology/Forensic Histopathology/Paediatric and Perinatal Pathology ST5

Curricular component	Comment	Recommended ARCP outcome	Recommended Action
Covid has caused disruption to training including redeployment	E. g. Limitation of exposure to specimen range and experience, MDT, courses, QIPs and research opportunities.	ARCP 10.1	Complete training on current curriculum if CCT date on or before 31 July 2023. Do not transition to new curriculum.
No disruption to training	Concerns raised about trainee (e.g., including general progress, <u>probity</u> and patient safety)	ARCP 2, 3 ARCP 4 (with a preceding outcome 3)	Complete training on current curriculum if CCT date on or before 31 July 2023. Do not transition to new curriculum.
Completion of training	Trainee on course to complete training, including the acquisition of relevant examination.	ARCP 6	CCT date will be on or before 31 July 2023. Complete training on current curriculum. Do not transition to new curriculum.

Transferring to the new LEPT platform

After the Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) in 2022

If the Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) date is after 31 July 2023

The LEPT ePortfolio will be migrated to the new platform

The College Training Department **must** have a copy of the ARCP outcome form

Remaining on the old LEPT platform

If the Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) date is on or before 31 July 2023 (i.e. final year of training)

Some flexibility depending on cases

The old LEPT platform to be phased out

Opportunity for individuals to save their LEPT training records on their own devices

Who to contact

ARCP date, arrangements and decisions – **your Local Deanery**

Queries on the LEPT system
Assessment Department
Email assessment@rcpath.org

Training queries e.g., CCT dates
Training Department
Email: training@rcpath.org