



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 Chemical Pathology and Chemical Pathology (Metabolic Medicine) 2022

Dr Adrian Park, Chair, Chemical Pathology CSTC

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Introduction

- 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 through training with the General Medical Council (GMC) and Statutory Education Bodies.
- In September 2021, the GMC confirmed that the approved derogations would remain in place throughout the period of disruption caused by the pandemic.
- Therefore, to support ARCP panels and to aid flexibility, we have developed joint transitional arrangements and ARCP derogation guidance.
- These transitional arrangements are for chemical pathology and chemical pathology (metabolic medicine) NTN holders in a GMC-approved UK training programme (leading to the award of the CCT or CESR(CP)) who are transferring to either the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology or the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.

Introduction

- These transitional arrangements apply to trainees who entered the relevant training programme prior to 1 August 2021. 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**.
- It is recognised that because of the change in the entry requirement for chemical pathology, not all current chemical pathology trainees will have completed Core Medical Training/Acute Care Common Stem CMT/ACCS and MRCP (UK). Therefore, these trainees will be precluded from transferring to the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology because they do not meet the entry requirements.

Introduction

- However, the existing 2010 Chemical Pathology Curriculum has been revised and brought into line as much as possible with the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology. Trainees not eligible to transfer to the new curriculum will instead be able to transfer to the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.

- As a guide, the GMC considers 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.

General Principles

a. Chemical pathology only trainees

Trainees

- without CMT/ACCS and MRCP (UK) will transfer to the equivalent point of the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology
- with CMT/ACCS and MRCP (UK) will transfer to the equivalent point of the 2021 chemical pathology curriculum

b. Chemical pathology (metabolic medicine) trainees

Trainees will transfer to the equivalent point of the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.

General Principles

c. All trainees:

- Trainees transferring to either the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology or 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology 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).

The recommended minimum data set 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. It may include an indicative assessment of the trainee, mindful of the impact of Covid-19.

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 the curriculum for guidance)
- any College exams completed.

Where there is overall evidence that a trainee is generally achieving progress and competences at the expected rate but has not been able to provide the indicative number of workplace-based assessments, suitable and appropriate alternative evidence can be taken into consideration.

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 either on the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology or on the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.
- 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 onto either the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology or 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology, 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 for chemical pathology and five and a half years for chemical pathology (metabolic medicine).
- The College is exercising flexibility with regard to the CCT date for trainees transitioning to the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology which has a minimum training time of five years.
 - Chemical pathology (metabolic medicine) trainees transitioning to the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology can retain their existing provisional CCT dates (based on a minimum five and a half year minimum training time) or complete training in a minimum of five years.
 - In all cases, trainees must provide sufficient evidence to the ARCP panel that they have satisfactorily completed all aspects of the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology, including all assessment and examination requirements.

Preparation prior to the ARCP

- 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 an appropriate way forward. This may include the need to contact the GMC for further advice.

Transitional Decision Guides

Chemical Pathology ST1/Chemical Pathology (metabolic medicine) ST3

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	<p><u>Trainees without CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant point in the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p> <p><u>Trainees with CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant point in the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p>
No disruption to training	Trainee on course to complete requirements for the year of training, including acquisition of relevant examination. Assessment of Practice completed.	ARCP 1	<p><u>Trainees without CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to ST2 in the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p> <p><u>Trainees with CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to ST4 in the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p>
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)	<p><u>Trainees without CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant point in the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p> <p><u>Trainees with CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant point in the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p>

Chemical Pathology ST2/Chemical Pathology (metabolic medicine) 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.	ARCP10.1	<p><u>Trainees without CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant ST2 point in the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p> <p><u>Trainees with CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant ST4 point in the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p>
No disruption to training	Trainee on course to complete requirements for year of training, including acquisition of relevant examination.	ARCP 1	<p><u>Trainees without CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to ST3 in the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p> <p><u>Trainees with CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to ST5 in the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology. Trainees are expected to pass the FRCPath Part 1 by the end of ST5.</p>
No disruption to training	Concerns raised about trainee (e.g., including general progress, <u>probity</u> and patient safety)	ARCP 2, 3, or 4	<p><u>Trainees without CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant point in the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p> <p><u>Trainees with CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant point in the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p>

Chemical Pathology ST3/Chemical Pathology (metabolic medicine) 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.	ARCP10.1	<p><u>Trainees without CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant ST3 point in the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p> <p><u>Trainees with CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant ST5 point in the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p>
FRCPATH Part 1 examination not passed (Chemical Pathology (Metabolic Medicine) only)	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 ST5 in the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.
No disruption to training	Trainee on course to complete requirements for year of training.	ARCP 1	<p><u>Trainees without CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to ST4 in the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p> <p><u>Trainees with CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to ST6 in the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p>
No disruption to training (passed FRCPATH Part 1)	Concerns raised about trainee (e.g., including general progress, <u>probity</u> and patient safety)	ARCP 2, 3, or 4	<p><u>Trainees without CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant point in the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p> <p><u>Trainees with CMT/ACCS/MRCP(UK)</u> Move to the relevant point in the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.</p>

Chemical Pathology ST4/Chemical Pathology (metabolic medicine) ST6

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 FRCPATH Part 2 by November 2022) Or Move to ST5 point in either the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology or 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology if CCT date after 31 July 2023 and/or FRCPATH Part 2 expected to be passed from May 2023.
FRCPATH Part 1 examination not passed (Chemical Pathology only)	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 ST4 in the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology.
FRCPATH Part 2 examination not passed	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 FRCPATH Part 2 by November 2022) or Move to ST5 in in either the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology or 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology if CCT date after 31 July 2023 and/or FRCPATH Part 2 expected to be passed from May 2023.
No disruption to training (passed FRCPATH 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 either the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology or the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology if CCT date after 31 July 2023.
No disruption to training (passed FRCPATH Part 2)	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)	Remain on current curriculum if CCT date on or before 31 July 2023 or move to ST5 in either the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology or the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology if CCT date after 31 July 2023.

Chemical Pathology ST5/Chemical Pathology (metabolic medicine) ST7

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.
<u>ERCP</u> Part 2 examination not passed (Chemical Pathology only)	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 <u>ERCP</u> Part 2 by November 2022) Or Move to ST5 in either the Transitional Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology or the 2021 Curriculum for Specialty Training in Chemical Pathology if CCT date after 31 July 2023 and/or <u>ERCP</u> Part 2 expected to be passed from May 2023.
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