**Specialty: Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics**

**GMC:** SES/389

**Deanery sponsoring programme:** South East of Scotland

**Postgraduate Dean:** Professor William Reid

**Responsible Associate Dean:** Dr Donald Farquhar

**Programme Type -**
- Deanery-based or National: National
- Specialty or Sub-specialty: Specialty

**Date of GMC recent approval:** August 2010

**Associated Royal College / Faculty**
Royal College of Physicians of London, British Pharmacology Society

**Web address**
RCP, BPS

**Curriculum and Associated Assessment System**
Link

**Date programme information last updated:** August 2010

**Recognised Programme Locations and Environments**
This programme involves placements in some or all of these Health Boards and hospitals:
Greater Glasgow, Lothian, Grampian, Tayside

**Programme Director**
Prof D N Bateman

**Contact**
NPIS E Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh
Nick.bateman@luht.scot.nhs.uk
Tel 0131 242 1383 (office)

**Programme Description**

**Why choose this programme**
Of all the medical specialties, clinical pharmacology and therapeutics probably offers trainees the widest range of post-CCT job opportunities. Normally training is conducted in association with a general medical or acute medical program. However, possibilities exist to accredit with other specialties, in Scotland these have included respiratory medicine, primary care, and oncology. This facility will depend in part on the trainee’s interest and the availability of an appropriate program.

Job opportunities after training exist in many areas including in research, clinical medicine within the NHS, with drug regulatory authorities and the pharmaceutical industry. Further careers can be moulded around trainee’s interests, and this is unusual in most medical specialties.

Most training programs will include a component of acute or general medicine interspersed with more academic based activities. The precise nature of these, which may include laboratory based research, clinical research in human volunteers and in patients, pharmacoepidemiology and developing teaching programs will vary on the trainee. In addition, trainees become familiar with how to prescribe, advise on the use of drugs within the NHS, and are often involved in local drug and therapeutics committees.

Training in this specialty in Scotland is focused on four academic centres, and training posts currently become
available associated with an individual Centre. These are Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow. In the future it is possible that modularisation of the training programme will encourage more movement of trainees between centres for specific experience in a research or clinical discipline where that centre offers particular expertise. Medical experience may be either in one of the core teaching hospitals or an associated DGH. Precise locations will depend on the location of the program and the experience of the trainee.

Scottish clinical pharmacology has an international reputation for excellence. All Scottish clinical pharmacology units have a strong research pedigree in cardiovascular science. In addition, the present UK NHS prescribing education initiative is run from Edinburgh. Edinburgh also has a special interest in clinical toxicology and hosts the UK NPIS unit responsible for TOXBASE; it is the site of Yellow Card Scotland, an MHRA Regional Monitoring Centre. Dundee is an international centre for pharmacoepidemiology and also does world-class research on respiratory pharmacology. Glasgow is known internationally for its work on stroke medicine. Aberdeen has been doing novel work on pharmacoepidemiology in Scottish primary care and in detection of childhood adverse reactions.

Interested applicants are strongly recommended to contact the National Training Director or local specialists for further information.

How to apply

http://www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk

Deanery Administrative Contacts

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Stephen Gitsham</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tel</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Stephen.gitsham@nes.scot.nhs.uk">Stephen.gitsham@nes.scot.nhs.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td>0131 650 9679</td>
</tr>
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Quality of Training

GMC Trainee Survey Information (2010) Not available