Specialty: Infectious Diseases

GMC: WOS/427

Deanery sponsoring programme: West of Scotland
Postgraduate Dean: Professor Alastair McGowan
Responsible Associate Dean/GP Director: Dr David Marshall

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

Date of GMC recent approval: August 2010

Associated Royal College / Faculty
The Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board (JRCPTB)

Web address
www.jrcptb.org.uk

Curriculum and Associated Assessment System
http://www.jrcptb.org.uk/specialties/ST3-SpR/Pages/Infectious-Diseases.aspx

Date programme information last updated August 2011

Recognised Programme Locations and Environments
This programme involves placements in some or all of these Health Boards and hospitals:

Gartnavel General Hospital and Western Infirmary, Glasgow
Monklands Hospital, Lanarkshire
Ninewells Hospital & Dundee Medical School, Dundee
Perth Royal Infirmary, Perth
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen
Western General Hospital, Edinburgh
Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh
Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline
Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy

Programme Director
Professor Clifford Leen

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Programme Description

1 a. What particular specialty learning opportunities does this programme provide e.g. sub-specialty exposure, especially those which are not available elsewhere?

Management of Viral Haemorrhagic fever; (Newcastle)
Tropical medicine course and preparation for the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene ( Glasgow)
Out-Patients Antibiotic Treatment (OPAT);
Transplantation in HIV positive patients: Edinburgh

b. How do trainees access these opportunities?

Trainees are encouraged to attend the one day training course in Newcastle where they are exposed to the principles
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of management of Viral Haemorrhagic fever, isolation, transfer of such patients in need for High Secure isolation.

Trainees can apply to join the tropical medicine course in Glasgow and are usually released from clinical work to enable this.

OPAT can be accessed in Aberdeen, Glasgow, Dundee and Edinburgh

2 a. What opportunities are there for research, audit and teaching?

All four deaneries offer opportunity for full time research carried out as OOPE. There is an academic trainee in Glasgow and trainees can also apply to do a period of research outside their deanery either within Scotland or within the UK.

There is ample opportunity for audit projects and for teaching medical students, nurses and junior doctors. Trainees are also encouraged to have training in teaching and assessment.

b. How do trainees access these opportunities?

They are encouraged to do research and these can usually be accessed through Academic track programmes linked with the local Universities or they can apply nationally for these research posts.

Audit and teaching are encouraged and arranged by their supervisors.

3 a. How are rotations are hospital sites organised?

These are arranged by their supervisors and there is also a National Training Committee for the specialty.

b. Which hospitals are involved?

- Gartnavel General Hospital and Western Infirmary, Glasgow
- Monklands Hospital, Lanarkshire
- Ninewells Hospital & Dundee Medical School, Dundee
- Perth Royal Infirmary, Perth
- Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen
- Western General Hospital, Edinburgh
- Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh
- Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline
- Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy

3. What degree of choice is there for trainees?

Trainees provide a list of deanery/ regional preferences. They are then allocated their choice following a ranking process after interview. The rotations are designed so that the curriculum is covered.

4. What teaching (e.g. day-release or exam preparation) or learning opportunities (e.g. e-learning, OOPE), are unique to this post or a key feature in the West?

There is a National Training day 4 to 5 times every year rotating to the four deaneries and to Newcastle. OOPE is encouraged for research and for particular trainee needs. There are regular training days organised by the Royal Colleges. HIV trainees and general infectious diseases trainees attend local, national and international conferences.
5. What can trainees expect of their trainers in this post?
Full support, mentorship

6. What are key markers of success? (e.g. exam pass rates. MD, PhD, papers)
MD, PhD, DTMH, Diploma in HIV, SCE

7. What additional information would you like to include that may encourage trainees to apply for specialty training in this programme in preference to similar programmes in other parts of the UK?
The National Training days rotating through five training centres are very popular with the trainees and the curriculum is delivered by experts in their areas of interest. There is overall excellent exposure to the whole spectrum of infectious diseases, hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, travel medicine, OPAT, Chronic Fatigue syndrome (CFS), HIV, management of rare and emerging infections. There are close links between the various centres and their local universities. Each centre has particular areas of interest and strengths which offer prospective candidates a further diversity of choice. The training in Scotland embraces a culture of collaboration between deaneries and affiliated hospitals so as to offer trainees a unique opportunity to learn and share experience with others. Whilst all the programmes are based in major Scottish cities all locations offer a good quality of life and ready access to more rural parts of Scotland.

Programme Descriptor

Scottish based ID training programmes offer high quality level of broad training in infection covering all the core disciplines within the curriculum, including HIV medicine and Hepatitis C. Each of the centres has particular areas of interest and strengths which offer prospective candidates a further diversity of choice. The training in Scotland embraces a culture of collaboration between deaneries and affiliated hospitals so as to offer trainees a unique opportunity to learn and share experience with others. Whilst all the programmes are based in major Scottish cities all locations offer a good quality of life and ready access to more rural parts of Scotland.

In East of Scotland (Tayside), clinical ID training is delivered at Ninewells Hospital and Acute and Internal Medicine is delivered at both Ninewells Hospital and Perth Royal Infirmary. The clinical Infection Unit has a strong interest in OPAT, bone and joint infections, HIV, hepatitis C (joint clinic with local hepatology) and unsolicited consults for bacteraemia within medicine and surgery. The unit is closely integrated within acute medicine and related specialties. There is a close working relationship with medical microbiology, pharmacy and orthopaedic surgery. The unit also has a major interest in medical education & quality improvement. The unit provides trainees not only a broad body of experience and opportunity in community and hospital acquired infection but also giving the trainee a chance to diversify into quality improvement and education whilst working in a geographically attractive environment.

In the West of Scotland clinical ID training is delivered on two sites: the Brownlee Centre in Gartnavel General Hospital in Glasgow, and the Infectious Diseases Unit in Monklands Hospital in Lanarkshire. Trainees spend approx 2/3 of the time in the Brownlee Centre and 1/3 in Monklands. The Brownlee Centre has larger HIV, HCV and HBV cohorts providing excellent training and experience in BBV management. It also has a higher number of returning travelers and a large OPAT service. Monklands has the advantage of being co-located with Acute Medical Receiving, ITU, and microbiology. Both units provide excellent experience in the management of patients with community acquired infection.

The Aberdeen teaching hospitals, Medical School and Institute of Medical Sciences are co-located on the Foresterhill site. This allows trainees to gain experience of all the disciplines core to ID training while remaining on the same site. The Regional Infectious Diseases Unit is located close to the University medical microbiology and virology departments. There is close collaboration in teaching and research between microbiology and ID. Training in ITU,
Acute and Internal Medicine, HIV medicine and other relevant specialties e.g. oncology, hepatitis C clinics can be provided in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. There are excellent library and IT facilities on site and an active postgraduate teaching programme including video-linked conferences. Aberdeen offers its residents a very good quality of life having prospered as a result of the oil industry. Some of the most beautiful parts of Scotland are within an hour’s drive and there are plenty of nearby opportunities for hill-walking and climbing.

In Edinburgh, the specialty training is delivered in the Regional Infectious Diseases Unit based at the Western General Hospital. The ID training is based at the Western General Hospital, while the Medical microbiology and ITU training is delivered both at the Western General Hospital and the Edinburgh New Royal Infirmary. Acute Internal medicine training is delivered at the Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy (District General Hospital) and at the Western General Hospital and/or Edinburgh New Royal Infirmary. Regional Infectious Diseases Unit has a strong interest in Blood Borne Virus Infections and supports the Scottish Transplant Centre for Liver Transplantation in HIV positive patients.

Dundee, Glasgow and Edinburgh have established Chairs in Infectious Diseases and opportunities exist for research leading to a further postgraduate qualification. Similar opportunities exist in Aberdeen.

There are 4 to 5 national training days rotating through with Newcastle every year especially designed for ID Trainees.

Experience in the management of community and hospital acquired infection, HIV, hepatitis C and B, and travel medicine is available in both departments. Attachments to microbiology/virology, ITU, Public Health, and GUM are arranged as required.

How to apply

[www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk/](http://www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk/)

**Deanery Administrative Contacts**

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**Quality of Training**

GMC Trainee Survey Information (2011)  [Link](http://www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk/)

NHS Education for Scotland