Deanery sponsoring programme: South East of Scotland

Postgraduate Dean: Professor Bill Reid

Responsible Associate Dean: Dr Rhiannon Pugh

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

Date of GMC recent approval: August 2010

Associated Royal College / Faculty: The Royal College of Psychiatrists

Web address: Link

Curriculum and Associated Assessment System: Link

Date programme information last updated: August 2010

Recognised Programme Locations and Environments
This programme involves placements in various locations (rural and urban) in South East Scotland (Edinburgh and the Lothians, Fife and the Borders).

Programme Director: Dr John Russell

Contact: 65 Morningside Drive, Edinburgh EH10 5NQ
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Programme Description

Why choose this programme
This programme offers excellent and varied training opportunities to work in several clinical settings in Learning Disability Psychiatry in South-East Scotland (Edinburgh and the Lothians, Fife and the Borders.)

The programme also offers the trainee an opportunity to work within the South-East Scotland Managed Care Network (MCN). The MCN has helped develop specialist services in South-East Scotland in particular for those with 'challenging behaviour', autism (via the ASD Regional Diagnostic Service), forensic problems (the new regional low secure unit in Fife) and has also been instrumental in the recruitment of consultants across the region.

Other MCNs for possible future development include a Child Learning Disability MCN and a Psychological Therapies MCN. In each region the use of various psychological therapies is being developed including CBT, Behavioural Family Therapy and Systemic Practice.

We also welcome trainees who wish to train flexibly.
Specialty Information

Trainees are able to choose (in consultation with their TPD) to work in a variety of clinical settings during their training.

It is usual for trainees to spend their first year working in a Community Learning Disability Team alongside their supervising consultant in either an urban or rural setting. In the second and third years of training opportunities are available for trainees to gain experience, for instance, in Forensic Learning Disability Psychiatry, Child and Adolescent Learning Disability Psychiatry, working at the Mental Welfare Commission, working with the ASD Diagnostic Service and with the 'Challenging Behaviour' team in Lothian. If trainees have other clinical interests relevant to the specialty - these can often be accommodated.

The main in-patient acute assessment and treatment units for the region are the William Fraser and Greenbank Centres in the grounds of the Royal Edinburgh Hospital and a new, soon-to-open, 14 bedded unit in the grounds of Lynebank Hospital in Dunfermline. There are also both Mental Health and Forensic Day Hospitals in Lothian.

The undertaking of Work Place Based Assessments is obviously encouraged and assessors have been calibrated. South-East Scotland was also one of the pilot regions for the Direct Observation of non-clinical Skills (DOnCS) WPBA.

On call for trainees currently involves the provision of telephone advice only for referrers for the whole of South-East Scotland (currently Band 1a). Trainees are always on-call with a supervising consultant. Robust on-call protocols are in place for each of the Health Board areas.

One special interest session is allocated per week which can be used for gaining experience in clinical genetics, epilepsy, and management, amongst others.

One research session is also allocated per week; there is strong academic support from the University of Edinburgh Department of Psychiatry. Ongoing research in the department includes a project looking at the attitudes of secondary healthcare staff treating people with a learning disability in general hospital settings and a project looking at the genetic factors involved in the aetiology of psychosis in those with a learning disability. Academic colleagues have also recently been involved in the writing of the Learning Disability section in the new Oxford Handbook as well as the Learning Disability chapter in the new Companion to Psychiatric Studies.

Trainees are also able to be involved in teaching opportunities for medical students at the University of Edinburgh both in year 3 (via tutorial groups) and in Year 4 (when students are on attachment to the Learning Disability Service in Lothian).

Fortnightly medical CPD meetings are held in Edinburgh involving journal clubs and case presentations. Visiting speakers are also welcomed. Study leave is supported. Trainees also have ample opportunity to present their research/other interests at these meetings as well as at other meetings nationally and on occasion internationally!

How to apply

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

Deanery Administrative Contacts

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**Specialty Training Committee**

**Chair**  
Dr John Russell

**Quality of Training**

**GMC Trainee Survey Information (2010)**  
Link