Specialty: Psychiatry of Learning Disability

GMC: WOS/514

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

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 November 2011

Recognised Programme Locations and Environments
Ailsa Hospital Knightswood Clinic
Ayrshire Central Hospital Leverndale Hospital
Bannockburn Hospital Monklands Hospital
Clackmannan County Hospital Parkhead Hospital (Glasgow)
Crichton Royal Hospital Possilpark Health Centre
Crosshouse Hospital Ravenscraig Hospital
Clackmannan County Hospital Parkhead Hospital (Glasgow)

Programme Director
Robin McGilp

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Programme Description

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

This popular programme offers excellent training opportunities to work in a variety of well developed clinical services in Learning Disability Psychiatry in the West of Scotland. Clinical experience is available in a variety of inpatient and community settings. The programme is underpinned by a continuing commitment to training, supervision and educational development. The programme is one of the largest in the UK and has been fully recruited to for the past few years.

b. How do trainees access these opportunities?

Trainees should expect to rotate through a number of training posts. Posts are allocated in discussion with the Training Programme Director taking into account the individual trainee’s training needs and interests.

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

There are strong links with the University of Glasgow and a strong academic ethos is evident throughout the programme. The Glasgow University Centre for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) is one of the major centres in research in this area in the UK and is networked internationally. Trainees should expect to become actively involved in teaching, research and audit.

b. How do trainees access these opportunities?

Trainees will become part of a research group which meets regularly. This is supervised by Prof SA Cooper and Dr McGilp. The University of Glasgow also has a modern undergraduate medical curriculum and trainees are actively involved at various levels in undergraduate and also postgraduate teaching. Teaching opportunities include lectures, seminars, MRCPsych course, PBL training and acting as an OSCE examiner in undergraduate final exams.

3 a. How are rotations are hospital sites organised?

This programme provides training in Learning Disability Psychiatry at a post core level. The normal duration of the programme will be 3 years and the usual entry level will be ST4. Trainees will rotate through a number of clinical placements usually of one year duration with an emphasis on developing the appropriate competencies to take on the role of a Consultant Learning Disability Psychiatrist. It is anticipated that the final year of the scheme will place particular emphasis on this task.

b. Which hospitals are involved?

Most placements are community rather than hospital based. Placements are throughout the West of Scotland in a wide variety of geographical areas and provide an extensive range of experience related to the demographics and service provisions in the different placements. The West of Scotland Deanery covers from Dumfries and Galloway in the south to Argyll in the North West and also includes Ayrshire, Glasgow and Clyde, Lanarkshire and Forth Valley.

c. What degree of choice is there for trainees?

For a particular trainee, placements are arranged with the Training Programme Director in order to take into account both the trainee’s needs in terms of training and also the requirement to provide a breadth of experience. As such, trainees would normally gain experience in different types of service e.g. inner city; rural etc; as well as providing experience in different areas of Learning Disability Psychiatry. There are a number of placements in more specialised
areas such as Forensic Learning Disability, Child & Adolescent Learning Disability and Clinical Genetics, Neurology / Epilepsy.

### 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?

In recent years senior trainees have been involved in helping devise their own teaching and also providing it for more junior trainees e.g. OSCE exam training. Management experience can be gained through a number of modules run by the local Deanery as well as a national course run by the Scottish Division of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

There is an established LD SpR Academic Programme with meetings held monthly on a Wednesday morning. The Programme is organised by the higher trainees and is made up of case presentations, invited speakers and research topics. There is an established West of Scotland Learning Disability Psychiatry CPD programme which meets monthly and is open to all medical staff working in LD in the region. Local services also run their own teaching programmes, journal clubs and audit meetings.

### 5. What can trainees expect of their trainers in this post?

Trainers in LD psychiatry in the West of Scotland are part of a committed and enthusiastic group with strong links to training and management. Trainees should expect to receive excellent support and supervision throughout their training.

### 6. What are key markers of success? (e.g. exam pass rates. MD, PhD, papers)

Positive feedback from previous PMETB surveys. Popular scheme that remains fully recruited. Excellent record of academic achievement. Numerous publications involving trainees. Several trainees have achieved higher degrees through their research.

### 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?

Positive feedback from previous PMETB surveys. Excellent record of academic achievement. Wide range of well resourced clinical services offering excellent training opportunities.

### How to apply

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

### Deanery Administrative Contacts

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### Specialty Training Committee
Specialty: Psychiatry of Learning Disability

GMC: WOS/514

Chair
Dr Susan Miller

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Dr Kathy Leighton, Dr David Brown, Dr Keith Brown, Dr Robin McGilp, Dr Seamus McNulty, Dr Cathy Cahill, Dr Andrea Caldwell, Dr Linda Findlay, Dr Brian Gillatt, Dr Jonathan Cavanagh, Dr Paul Thompson, Dr Nicola Hodelet, Dr Jennifer Halliday, Dr Debbie Mason, Dr Nabila Muzaffar, Dr Wai Imrie, Dr Sarah Holmes, Dr Ian Dewar, Dr Anne Nightingale, Dr Matthew Sheridan, Dr Helen Minnis, Dr Sinead McAree, Dr Sean Dorman, Dr Elizabeth Spence, Dr Debbie Brown, Dr Siobhan Murphy, Dr Euan Easton, Dr Diane Lusman, Dr Martin Carlin, Dr Rajdeep Routh, Dr Iain Smith, Dr Gordon Wilkinson, Dr Caroline Woolston, Dr Robert Clafferty

Quality of Training

GMC Trainee Survey Information (2011) Link