

Curriculum Development and Evaluation of the Specialised Foundation Programme in NHS Fife



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Introduction

What: Healthcare organisations engaged in research experience improved patient outcomes and have the potential to improve equitable access to innovation, treatment options and outcomes for patients.



The Specialised Foundation Programme (sFP) provides an opportunity for foundation programme doctors to develop academic skills alongside foundation programme competencies.

Context: In 2024/2025, NHS Fife in conjunction with Southeast Scotland Deanery and the University of St. Andrews, hosted their first intake of sFP doctors in Foundation Year (FY) 2.



Through a competitive selection process 3 FY2s were selected to participate in this new programme.



We are developing a dynamic curriculum and prospective evaluation of the programme.

Methods

Curriculum Development : Multiple local stakeholders - clinical and university academic supervisors, directors of medical education, foundation programme directors, clinical academics and the foundation doctors.

Programme Evaluation:

Questionnaires and Iterative focus group discussions

Results and Discussion

6 Planned Programme Outcomes

1. CV Building
2. Academic skill development
3. Positive reactions
4. Career decisions makers
5. Programme sustainability & future expansion
6. Tangible departmental impact

Core Emergent Outcomes

1. Development of processes to support the achievement of outcomes – e.g. links with RIK
2. Exploring access to funding support
3. Honorary lectureships
4. Creating communities of practice

Conclusion: Expansion of the sFP could reduce health inequalities if a sustainable and dynamic approach to curriculum development and evaluation is created and maintained through engagement with all stakeholders

