**General Training Programme Directors**

***Please cascade to your C5 convenor and other FRTs in your General Training Programme***

**Faculty Deanery Advisors**

**ANNOUNCEMENT: CHANGES TO THE FACULTY TRAINING PROGRAMME**

The FSRH is pleased to announce the introduction of a number of changes to its General Training Programme (FSRH Diploma and Letters of Competence) which are now ‘live’.

The changes include:

        The introduction of an on-line knowledge assessment (eKA) for anyone who wishes to qualify for a FSRH Diploma or Letter of Competence. This is now available via the Faculty website.  More information here – [**eKA**](http://www.fsrh.org/pages/eka.asp)**.** Current holders of the DFSRH wishing to take a LoC will not be required to do this.

        The opening up of the FSRH Diploma to nurses, linked to full nurse diplomate membership of the Faculty (NDRSRH).  More information here - [**FSRH Diploma and LoC**](http://www.fsrh.org/pages/Training.asp)**.**

        The opening up of the Letters of Competence in IUT and SDI to nurses and doctors without having to first obtain the FSRH diploma. Nurses and doctors will have the option of taking out associate membership of the Faculty when they are awarded a LoC. More information here - [**FSRH Diploma and LoCs FAQ**](http://www.fsrh.org/pdfs/FAQsUpdateFSRHTrainingProgramme.pdf)**.**

We hope that by offering Letters of Competence without the Diploma – to both nurses and doctors – we are providing a more flexible approach to the development of competencies in SRH. However, the FSRH strongly recommends that LARC methods are offered within the framework of a comprehensive choice for people seeking contraceptive advice. The FSRH Diploma training programme is designed to support those who provide sexual health consultations in primary care, community and integrated sexual health clinics and the Faculty will be promoting this to commissioners as the appropriate qualification for supporting these consultations.

In order to ensure that those seeking to provide LARC methods also have a broad theoretical knowledge of sexual and reproductive healthcare, the eKA has been designed as an entry point. The content of the eKA is the same for everyone, whether pursuing the FSRH Diploma or LoC route, and will assess application of knowledge on all aspects of sexual and reproductive health, including all methods of contraception.

The FSRH currently has over 15,000 doctor members working in sexual and reproductive healthcare and is looking forward to nurses playing a key role in the organisation in the future. FSRH member benefits include recertification of qualifications (no fee), reduced rates and early bird rates for all FSRH training and events, quarterly copies of the Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Healthcare, member’s clinical enquiry service, early access to evidence based guidance and product reviews, opportunities to network with other SRH healthcare professionals and access to the member’s only section of the FSRH website.

The Faculty is delighted to be able to offer a nationally recognised set of sexual and reproductive health qualifications to both doctors and nurses and would like to thank all the healthcare professionals who have been involved in developing these.

I would like to bring to your attention the following notice regarding the e-portfolio:

**e-Portfolio:   interim arrangement**

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT from the FSRH for doctors and nurses doing the Faculty Diploma**

The FSRH Diploma is now open to nurses as well as doctors. In addition the Faculty has taken the opportunity to clarify entry requirements to the Diploma for both doctors and nurses. Unfortunately, due to circumstance beyond the Faculty’s control, these changes are not yet reflected in the design of the e-portfolio. However, any doctor or nurse should still apply for an e-portfolio [**e-portfolio allocation form**](http://www.fsrh.org/pdfs/DiplomaEportfolioAllocationForm.pdf) once they have passed the eKA as part of their Diploma application process. Any doctor or nurse opening an e-portfolio before the end of March 2014 will also need to download and fill out the form **Entry Requirements Part 2 of 3** from the FSRH website rather than using this form on the e-portfolio. This form should then be presented to your Course of 5 Organiser. Please direct any queries to QualityTraining@fsrh.org.

[**Entry Requirement 2 of 3 DFSRH**](http://www.fsrh.org/pdfs/DiplomaDFSRHEntryRequirement2of3.pdf)

[**Entry Requirement 2 of 3 NDFSRH**](http://www.fsrh.org/pdfs/DiplomaNDFSRHEntryRequirement2of3.pdf)

**Jenny Heathcote**

**Chair - General Training Committee**

**31 January 2014**

Deborah Roberts

General Training Secretary

Direct Line: 020 7724 5669

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The entry requirements are attached.

