East of England

School of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Miss Erika Manzo Head of School
Miss Daisy Nirmal Training Programme Director
Mr Ilias Giarenis SITM Director

Email: ilias.giarenis@nnuh.nhs.uk

Dear ST4 resident doctor

SITM application 2026/27 for:

- **all resident doctors commencing ST5 after August 2027**
- **ST5 (started from August 2025) resident doctors who did not apply last year**

All ST resident doctors must undertake two Special Interest Training Modules (SITMs) at ST5, ST6 and ST7 to develop the high-level skills needed to achieve CCT in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. We ask you complete the attached application form stating your preferred SITMs. Reference from a consultant at your current workplace (usually your educational supervisor) is required using the standard reference form attached. This is to determine if they believe you have the necessary aptitude for your preferred SITMs. You will also need to send a 2-page CV.

We plan to perform career advice interview via Microsoft Teams for:

- Prenatal diagnosis
- Management of complex non-malignant disease
- Management of subfertility
- Oncology
- Robotic assisted gynaecological surgery
- Urogynaecology and vaginal surgery
- Gynaecological surgical care
- Other SITMs, if heavily subscribed

The process is intended to select the most suitable candidates for the SITM, based on skills, knowledge and attitude. Your referee should highlight your strengths and explain why this SITM is appropriate for you. We will take into account your overall performance throughout the training, as well as your exposure to your chosen discipline. If a SITM is oversubscribed i.e. more applicants than spaces for training in the region then not all trainees will be able to undertake their preferred SITM and some will be allocated a unit that can provide their 3rd SITM choice.

Please see link below for comprehensive RCOG info regarding SITMs:
Special Interest Training Modules (SITMs) | 2024 | RCOG

Each Trust within the Deanery can offer training in part of the components of several SITMs. You will be allocated to rotations between hospitals to complete your SITM training. For your guidance we have attached a table with hospitals that could offer the most complex aspects of each SITM and a list with the SITM preceptors.

Please note:

If you temporarily leave the program during ST5-7 (e.g. OOPE, maternity leave, or due to prolonged illness), we will attempt to allocate you at the same unit, but this may not be possible.

You can undertake your first SITM from ST5 onwards. Your second SITM can only be started as ST6, once you have achieved MRCOG. The RCOG intermediate ultrasound requirements for certain SITMs can be done alongside a SITM, apart from Prenatal Diagnosis, where intermediate fetal scanning must be completed before starting the SITM.

For SITM which require technical skills (e.g. fetal scanning, laparoscopic surgery), you would be advised to obtain feedback from a supervisor as part of your references in order to support your application and demonstrate that you have the necessary aptitude to progress in this field.

Please upload the required documents using this form 2026 SITM Applications – Fill in form
(Log in using your nhs.net account) **by midnight on Monday 26th October 2026.**

1.) Attached application form
2.) A short version of your CV with 2 referees (2 sides A4)
3.) A reference to support your application (using the reference form attached to the email)

Incomplete applications will not be accepted, and you will be excluded from the competitive process. This will mean that you will be required to reapply in the following year. Alternatively, you may be allocated to any SITM that remains available at the conclusion of the allocation process. We therefore strongly recommend that you review your application carefully and ensure that all required information and documentation are provided.

SITM career advice interview details:

Date: 11th December 2026
Format of interview: A presentation no longer than 5 minutes followed by a 15-minute interview
Your presentation should cover the following:

- ✓ Your eligibility for your preferred SITMs
- ✓ Evidence of your commitment to the SITMs including QI/audit
- ✓ Research and teaching
- ✓ Leadership and teamwork

We hope this process will improve your experience with SITM training, and will provide a longer-term plan for allocations to better manage training and family life.

The school board wish you every success for your advanced training.

With kind regards,

Ilias Giarenis MD(Res) FRCOG