

School of General Practice East of England

Course Details

General Practice is a 3 year run-through course, with placements based in 18 different areas within the East of England region. All of the hospital and General Practice placements will be within the same geographical area for all of the 3 years, with recruitment organized nationally

Regional Training

Each of the 18 programmes organise a regular half day release programme which generally meets for 30 weeks of the year. We also have an extensive series of regional study days that are free of charge to our trainees and cover a range of topics, including exam preparation.



We have 6 ST4 Fellowships in Educational Leadership and Quality Improvement available within the region!

Simulation

You will regularly do simulated consultations to help you develop your clinical and communication skills. You will also have access to simulation labs for examination and emergency care simulations

If you would like to do a taster placement in a GP Practice, please get in touch with one of our GP Training Programme Directors (contact details available on the HEEoE Website)

Exams

Two exams, the Applied Knowledge Test (AKT) and the Consultation Skills Assessment (CSA). The AKT is an MCQ style exam, whereas the CSA takes place in London and involves 13 simulated consultation scenarios.



There is ample clinical and academic preparation for both exams available as part of your training.

Meet The Team



Global Health

We actively promote the Global Health Fellowships whereby trainees work in South Africa for a year between ST2 and ST3. In fact, we were one of the first regions to introduce this idea!



Janet Rutherford
(Head of School)

It is a wonderful place to live and work, both during your training and once you are qualified.

We have an amazing community of GP educators

We really want to know what you think will help you.

Contact us

If a career in General Practice interests you we would love to hear from you!

https://heeo.e.hee.nhs.uk/general_practice/interested-gp-

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General Practice

Frequently asked questions

Teaching & Study Leave

How is the regional teaching program structured?

Each of the 18 programmes organise a regular half day release programme which generally meets for 30 weeks of the year. We also have an extensive series of regional study days that are free of charge to our trainees and cover a range of topics, including exam preparation.

How many days of study leave do I get?

30 days a year, which includes the half day release programme for 15 days.

What opportunities are there for simulation training in the region? You will regularly do simulated consultations to help you develop your clinical and communication skills. You will also have access to simulation labs for examination and emergency care simulations

If Medicine was a car industry, which car would represent General Practice and why?

The London black cab - used by everyone, efficient, comfortable and a true British icon. We also move with the times whilst planning for all eventualities - now that lots of London cabs are electric, with a backup petrol generator for emergencies.

Training Programme

How many years is the training program? 3 years

Is the training run through or decoupled? Run through

Which units in the East of England can I be trained in?

GP training programmes are based around 18 different areas in the East of England. All your hospital and general practice placements are all generally within the same geographical locality for all 3 years

Are there more localized Sub-rotations to avoid long commutes?

Not needed as all posts are generally in the same geographical area anyway.

What induction program is there into training in the region?

Each training programme has a local induction and the School of General Practice organises another induction day in each of our 6 main county areas. We have a GP School induction pack and individual programmes and general practices also tend to have their own induction packs. When you start in a GP placement, you can generally expect to have at least 1-2 weeks where you shadow various members of the team so that you become familiar with how the practice works, local referral processes and how fantastic primary care is!

How is recruitment organized? It is a national process organised by the General Practice National Recruitment Office (GPNRO).

<https://gpemployment.hee.nhs.uk/>

Opportunities

What Sub-specialty / fellowship training opportunities are there in the region?

We have 6 ST4 Fellowships in Educational Leadership and Quality Improvement

What research opportunities are there in the region? We have a number of academic trainees who are recruited to a 4 year training programme so that they spend an additional year focussed on their academic work and research.

Is there scope for work overseas during my training?

Yes, we actively promote the Global Health Fellowships whereby trainees work in South Africa for a year between ST2 and ST3. In fact, we were one of the first regions to introduce this idea!

Where can I go for more information?

The HEE east of England General Practice page

https://heeo.e.hee.nhs.uk/general_practice/interested-gp-training.

Please do contact any of our Training Programme Directors as well. Their contact details can be found on this website and they can often help find a taster placement for you in a GP practice.

Exams

What exams will I have to sit during my training?

AKT = Applied Knowledge Test. This is an MCQ style exam. CSA = Consultation Skills Assessment. This is held in London at the RCGP headquarters and involves 13 simulated consultations where your data gathering, clinical management and interpersonal skills are assessed

Is there any exam preparation organised in the region?

All the half day release programmes will help with preparation for both AKT and CSA. And the GP trainers in your practice placements will also be a great resource. We run clinical skills courses for ST1 and ST2 trainees as well as CSA preparation courses for ST3 trainees. We are also just about to purchase the Fourteen Fish AKT online preparation package for all our GP trainees.

What are the top 3 reasons for training in the East of England:

1. It is a wonderful place to live and work, both during your training and once you are qualified.
2. We have an amazing community of GP educators
3. We really want to know what you think will help you.