

## **Guidance by HEE EoE on Shared Teaching of GP Trainees within a Primary Care Network (PCN)**

### **Context**

- The introduction of Primary Care Networks is likely to lead to General Practices working more closely together in a local area.
- This could lead to growing requests for GP Training Practices to combine their weekly teaching sessions both for the educational benefit to the GP Trainees and also to improve efficiency.
- There is also a need to increase Training Capacity in General Practice in view of the increased numbers of doctors being recruited into GP Specialist Training.

### **Principles**

- Guidance on this issue should try to:
  - Ensure there is no fall in the quality of teaching provided to the GP Trainees.
  - Maintain the 1-1 relationship between a GP Trainee and their GP Trainer/GP Associate Trainer so the individual learning needs of the GP Trainee continue to be met.
  - Ensure these combined teaching sessions should not replicate the educational experience provided in the Half Day Release.

### **Guidance**

- GP Trainees can have their weekly in-house GP practice teaching combined with other GP practices in a Primary Care Network.
- At least one of the GP Practices in this Network needs to have an approved Educational Supervisor (GP Trainer or Tier 3 Educator).
- The other GP practices involved in this shared learning in the Network each need to have at least a Tier 2 Educator (Associate Trainer) who acts as the Clinical Supervisor for the GP Trainee.
- The GP Trainee needs to have a named GP Trainer/GP Associate Trainer who they meet at least every fortnight for a 121 discussion, in addition to these shared teaching sessions. This will be particularly useful for joint surgeries, video work on consultation skills, feedback on training progress and examination preparedness, pastoral support

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and work-place based assessments. The amount of 121 time needed should be judged according to the individual needs of the trainee.

- The contractual requirements for educational time should always be borne in mind – 4 hours of practice-based teaching per week, 4 hours of self-directed learning and 4 hours of structured teaching (HDR)
- If there is going to be regular shared teaching in a network of GP Practices, thought should be given to the maximal number of learners in a group. This would be to ensure that there is a good opportunity for all the learners to participate and to have a good educational experience.
- The shared teaching can also involve other professionals as well as GP Trainees.
- GP Trainees should be asked for their feedback about the experience of this shared teaching across practices and appropriate action then taken based on this feedback.
- A record should be kept of the attendance of the GP Trainees at these shared teaching sessions.
- Advice on how to become a GP Educator in East of England is at [https://heeo.ee.hee.nhs.uk/general\\_practice/gp-educators/becoming-gp-educator](https://heeo.ee.hee.nhs.uk/general_practice/gp-educators/becoming-gp-educator)