

<b>School of Anaesthesia</b> <b>Visit to The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn NHS Foundation Trust</b> <b>Executive Summary</b> <b>Date of visit: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2014</b>	
<b>HEEoE and School of Anaesthetics representatives:</b>	<b>Dr Simon Fletcher</b> – Head of Postgraduate School of Anaesthesia and Associate Dean <b>Dr Nicola Barber</b> – Deputy Regional Advisor, The Royal College of Anaesthetists <b>Dr Phil Hodgson</b> – Consultant Anaesthetist, Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital <b>Dr Suhas Kumar</b> – Trainee Representative
<b>Trust representatives :</b>	<b>Dr Mark Blunt</b> – Medical Director <b>Dr Beverly Watson</b> – Medical Director <b>Dr Susan Abdy</b> – CD Anaesthetics <b>Dr Andrew Douds</b> – Associate Medical Director for Education <b>Dr Sudarshana Gururajao</b> – College Tutor <b>Mrs Jeannette Richardson</b> – Medical Education Manager <b>Mrs Heather Slater</b> – Medical Education Administrator
<b>Number of trainees &amp; grades who were met:</b>	Five core trainees were seen, two of whom were ACCS  Four ST trainees were interviewed

<b>Purpose of visit :</b>
<p>The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn was visited as part of the rolling review of training in Anaesthesia in all Trusts in the East of England.</p> <p>There were no specific issues that HEEoE was aware of prior to the visit.</p> <p>The 2013 GMC survey identified 4 areas of excellence, with 1 red flag related to regional teaching at core level.</p>

<b>Strengths:</b>
<p>All the trainees interviewed felt that their experience in Kings Lynn was exceptional.</p> <p>The department was open, friendly and supportive. The overall clinical exposure was sufficiently varied to fully support core training and at least a year of ST training. In particular;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Departmental induction was relevant and comprehensive</li> <li>2. Novice trainees were exposed to a small number of consultants and clinical exposure focussed on the fundamental practice of anaesthesia</li> </ol>

3. Thereafter training was well delivered, in modules where appropriate
4. E-portfolio and E of E workbooks were used by all and WPBAs were easily obtained
5. Direct clinical supervision was appropriate for level of training, ST trainees working solo on appropriate lists
6. ACCS trainees reported a good experience in both Emergency and Acute Medicine
7. Training in ICM was excellent
8. The Regional Anaesthesia Fellow was delighted by the training and opportunities this post offered
9. Both in theatre and FRCA focussed teaching was excellent.
10. **Dr Gururajao** was singled out for particular praise. It is clear that his teaching is well planned, focussed and of high quality and frequently delivered in the evenings and at weekends
11. There did not appear to be a problem with obtaining study leave
12. Departmental IT facilities were adequate but the hardware needs upgrading
13. There were able opportunities to undertake audit and small research projects
14. None reported being asked to work outside their comfort levels and there were no reports of undermining or bullying

#### Areas for development:

A couple of minor problems were evident and these were fed back directly to the Trust team:

1. Pre-assessment clinics - There are currently no anaesthetic lead clinics. This is an important area with both patient safety and training issues
2. The delivery of elective Caesarean section lists is chaotic and may, potentially, compromise emergency work as well as training in this area
3. As with many similar hospitals the overall exposure to obstetric anaesthesia is not large. This module could potentially be delivered earlier in Core training
4. ST trainees reported little exposure to Emergency Surgery. The department, quite properly, staffs these lists with consultants but it would not be unreasonable to occasionally allow the ST trainees some exposure, with near-by consultant support
5. Regional Teaching was the only red flag on the GMC survey. Leave to attend this was not a problem, but all felt that the quality and content added little to that available locally. The content of this teaching appeared to repeat yearly. The content of this teaching merits a review.

#### Significant concerns:

None were expressed.

**Requirements:**

None.

**Recommendations:**

We were all impressed with the quality of training delivered at both core and ST level in Kings Lynn. While all must take credit for this, we wish to single out Dr Sudarshana Gururajao, the College Tutor. He is clearly exceptionally supportive, working well beyond the level expected.

We would ask the Trust and department to take note of the few items discussed under 'areas for development' and would appreciate an action plan on how these may be addressed.

<b>Timeframes:</b>	<b>Action Plan to HEEoE by:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> June 2014
	<b>Revisit:</b>	3 years

**Head of School: Dr Simon Fletcher**