**Trainee Report from Anaesthesia Board Meeting and Specialty Training Committee Meeting, 9th October 2017**

Joanna Walker, Jane Hermanowski, Laura Kessack (in absentia)

1. **An update on the Lifelong Learning Platform (the new e-Portfolio)**

* The RCOA are investing money into the backup of data on the current e-Portfolio; at the time of transition users will be able to download their existing e-Portfolio (in its entirety) in read-only format. If this is lost by the individual user, the RCOA will have back ups on request.
* The date of rollout is August 2018 - how the transition will roll out has not been confirmed and remains under consultation (e.g. by level of training or all at once).

1. **ARCPs/WBAs**

* A new Gold Guide (7th edition) is in development and should be available online in the coming months.
* Some deaneries/specialty schools favour a “virtual” ARCP process. The EoE School of Anaesthesia has fought to retain face-to-face ARCPs as this provides the additional ability to help trainees with the planning of their training, rather than being purely a paper exercise. This School of Anaesthesia will continue to perform face-to-face ARCPs for the foreseeable future although there may be pressure in the future to reconsider this.

1. **Regional Training Updates**

*For All Levels of Training*

*New RCOA Curriculum*

* In development, but will not be instigated for at least two years.
* The syllabus will be outcome-based, with a greater emphasis on consultant feedback, personal activities, logbooks and overall professional behaviours, with less emphasis on actual WBA numbers.
* Nine domains of professional behaviour will also be incorporated.

*New Regional Advisor for Pain Medicine*

* Dr Paul Rolfe will be taking over from Dr Lorraine de Gray in this role.

*Dual ICM Training – sub-specialty exposure*

* There was discussion regarding how to facilitate the exposure of ICM trainees to the ICM subspecialties (paediatrics, cardiac, neuro); this may involve extending the duration of the CUH honorary contracts (the NNUH trainees use this for their neuro attachment) in order to allow a number of short term returns to CUH for this purpose. We will await further details.

*Annex G*

* A workbook is being trialled at the West Suffolk Hospital under Dr Sturgess, which maps the syllabus to demonstrable competencies. If trainee feedback is positive, this will be made available to trainees across the region.
* *Research Day for Non-Academics: Planned for 2018 (date TBC)*

Co-ordinated by Dr Summers (Programme Lead ACF)/ Dr Underhill & Barber/NEACTAR/ACFs: Programme contents is still TBC, but may include topics such as how to set up a journal club, critically evaluate a paper, how to apply for an ACF/UDA post and how to get involved with research/QIP’s in the region.

*Basic Level Training*

* No specific updates, but ACCS trainees please see section 8

*Intermediate Level Training*

*Intermediate Level Training Workbook*

* The Intermediate Level workbook is presently being updated to include all modules (i.e. including the cardiac and neuro modules).

*Neuroanaesthesia Modules at Addenbrooke’s*

* There are plans to increase exposure to neuro-critical care patients during the neuroanaesthesia module at CUH, particularly for dual ICM trainees. This will likely be for approximately one week in total, distributed throughout the module and during daytime hours (with probably no NCCU on call commitments).

*Higher and Advanced Level Training*

*ST5 – Training Modules*

* The ST5 year should be for the General Duties competencies to be achieved; OOPE/ specialty attachments in this year will be discouraged. With prospective approval from the Regional Advisors it may be approved in exceptional circumstances.
* ST5 should be used for Higher Training only and Advanced Modules are unlikely to be counted. Any trainee who is concerned by this should seek advice from their College Tutor.

1. **Regional Teaching/ Study Days**

* Regional teaching days in the EoE School of Anaesthesia are generally on a monthly or bimonthly basis (depending on the level of training). This has resulted in a “red flag” on the GMC training survey as it is less often than weekly – it is felt in this deanery that weekly sessions are not desirable due to the commuting distances involved in this region.
* If any trainees have ideas for improvements to the regional study days then please forward them to the Trainee Reps (Jo/Jane).
* ‘The Advantage’ author (Emma Sue Prince) ran a ‘soft skills’ all day seminar on Monday 25th Sept 2017, at Fulbourn. Approximately 12 trainees attended from Core level through to ST7. It covered topics including: adaptability, resilience, optimism, integrity, critical thinking and proactivity. This was deanery funded (free for delegates) and may run in 2018 as a cross-specialty course.
* See the school website for regional exam course dates and post FRCA teaching dates.

1. **Next Trainee Forum Day – 2nd May 2018 Fulbourn**

* As per the last Trainee Forum, it will include information sessions on common training issues, updates from around the region, open discussions about training issues, and a Q&A session with senior deanery representatives (e.g. Head of School/Regional Advisor)
* The day will be funded by the deanery.
* College Tutors will encourage attendance if study leave is applied for in adequate time.
* As our region is so large geographically, we could plan to arrange a sociable evening meal, to connect trainees within the region with similar research and specialty interests which may give rise to collaboration on future projects, if there is sufficient interest.

1. **Trainee Rest Facilities**

* Jane Hermanowski is conducting a survey into on-call and post-call rest facilities across the region, in co-ordination with the RCOA
* Please email her any details about the rest facilities on-call and post-call in your hospital.

1. **Relocation/Expenses**

* Run by local trusts – if problems to discuss with local postgraduate training centres.

1. **Third Year ACCS Trainees and Pay**

* With the New Junior Doctors Contract, it is incredibly relevant how third year ACCS trainees are “labelled”/”badged” from a pay perspective – CT3s qualify for ST3 pay on the New Contract whereas CT2,“CT2b” or similar grades will get paid at core trainee level (a difference amounting to ~11k/yr). On the old contract this was not the case.
* The RCOA view is that third year ACCS trainees should be badged as CT3 however HEE is still to decide this. Currently this is an HR issue and will down to your local Trust – any concerns speak to your College Tutor, trainee representatives, or your LNC/BMA representative.

1. **Study Leave/ Budget**

* *Significant changes* are occurring to how study leave budgets are allocated and managed (mandated by HEE nationally and discussed in the “enhancing junior doctors’ working lives” report – see <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Enhancing%20junior%20doctors%E2%80%99%20working%20lives%20-%20a%20progress%20report_0.pdf>).
* Whilst the overall allocation of funds per trainee has not changed, the proportion that can be directly accessed by each trainee in terms of reimbursement has been significantly reduced: the personal study leave budget has been reduced to *£400 per trainee per year*; this money will be held by (and claimed from) the trainees’ employing Trusts.
* The remaining £400 per trainee will be added to a [national] Centralised Curriculum Delivery Fund (CCDF), which after various “top slicings” will be used to fund delivery of the curriculum (regional training days, curriculum-required courses).
* Over time, the allocation from the CCDF to each school is anticipated to alter based on the costs of delivering each school’s training programme; some programmes are more costly to deliver than others (for example the cadaveric courses required for surgical training are more costly than courses required to attain Foundation Programme competencies).
* There is a Study Leave Oversight Group (led by Dr Ian Barton – deputy Postgraduate Dean) which will be involved in any changes to how the study leave budget is dispersed between specialties within the deanery – there is trainee representation across levels from FY1 to specialty trainees, and anaesthesia is represented in this group (Jane H). We will update with further information as it arises.
* Trainees are encouraged to attend the “free” study days and simulation courses, as they are invaluable educational resources and if uptake is poor then the funding for them may reduce/disappear in the future.
* On a local level, we have had reports that some trainees have encountered complex administrative processes to access study funds – please let your local trainee reps/ College tutor know if this is happening in your Trust.

1. **LTFT Training**

* There are increasing numbers of LTFT trainees within the region and LTFT training is supported by the deanery.
* There is a network of LTFT training consultant mentors across the region.   
  Please contact Laura Kessack, the LTFT trainee rep or Dr Elspeth Reid, the LTFT training Anaesthetic Consultant Lead if you would like further information about the mentor network or any other LTFT info.
* There is an East of England LTFT trainee Facebook group for information and to socialise with other trainees interested in LTFT training.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/444351625737755/>

1. **Recruitment for February 2018**

* Core Training:
  + South 8/12 posts filled
  + North 2/6 posts filled
* Specialty Training:
  + Anaesthetics: 6/15 posts filled (8 interviewed, 7 appointable, 6 accepted)
  + ICM: 8/8 posts filled (fewer anaesthetic trainees appointed than EM/medicine this year)

1. **Reminders and Notices**

* Trainees need to register/re-register with the RCOA at ST3
* Please check the deanery website regularly for up to date versions of paperwork/ workbooks etc. It is recommended that trainees visit the deanery website at least once/week. (<https://heeoe.hee.nhs.uk/anaesthesia_home>)
* The most up to date information regarding repatriation is on the deanery website. However this is still an ongoing process and is therefore being continually updated.
* If you are on Facebook, please join our trainee anaesthesia group for regional training and social matters: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/495125777304202/>
* A useful webpage for ICU trainees was highlighted – [www.ICCUeducation.org.uk](http://www.ICCUeducation.org.uk) for finding out what the training requirements are for ICU.
* Dr Hobbiger will be standing down as Head of School in 2018 and is standing for election to the RCOA council. Electronic ballots will be sent electronically by 20th October 2017. Please vote by 4th December 2017.

1. **Upcoming Dates for the Trainee Diary**

* East Anglian Core Topics and Harold Youngman Prize Meeting.   
  9th/10th November 2017. This is an RCOA 25th Anniversary Event and thus has a subsidised fee.   
  <https://eaaacoretopicsandharoldyoungmanprize.wordpress.com>
* Norwich Anaesthesia Update Day 7th December 2017. Trainee submissions are invited for the Ronak “Ronnie” Patel Trainee Prize, deadline 13th November 2017.

<https://www.norwichanaesthesia.org/>

* Regional Multi-Specialty Return to Clinical Practice course, Victoria House, Fulbourn. (Deanery funded.) Topics include: resilience, human factors, balancing academic and clinical interests, childcare, working LTFT, signposting resources/CPD – 8th Feb 2017, 7th June 2018.   
  Contact Laura Kessack for details.
* RESTART: East of England Return To Anaesthetics Simulation Course.

A one-day clinical anaesthesia simulation course fully funded by the School (free) for regional trainees who have been out of clinical work for any reason or any duration– 23rd April 2018. Contact Laura Kessack or Jo Walker for details.

* Trainee Forum Day, Fulbourn – 2nd May 2018
* See the Deanery website for any other training days/courses (<https://heeoe.hee.nhs.uk/node/3065>)