

OMFS SAC Newsletter



David Koppel – SAC Chair. davidkoppel@me.com

I have been SAC chair for a year now and I thought it would be beneficial to give everyone an update as to what has been happening in the SAC. Please contact me directly if you have any questions, queries, gripes or positive suggestions.

Membership and posts

The membership of the SAC remains relatively stable and we extend an invitation to TPDs to attend any meetings too. As always the pressures of employers limit the amount of time that members are able to devote to the SAC and if anyone is interested in helping shape and develop training for our specialty please get in touch. There are a number of roles that we are struggling to adequately fill and new blood would be most welcome.

GMC recognition of trainers:

This has been introduced by the GMC (<http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/10264.asp>) all those involved in training will need to have this completed by the end of the year. Each trust/LETB and employer will mandate what is actually required. As well as being a tick box exercise it is a wonderful opportunity for those interested to build on and develop their existing skills and abilities and also obtain some formal credit for this.

Change in SAC Timing in Certification application

The process by which a recommendation to the GMC of the award of a CST is made is being changes significantly. The process is being changed primarily to protect, and manage the legal risk to the Colleges and JCST. Essentially the JCST office will collate and review all evidence 6 months before an expected CST and then the Liaison Member and the ARCP panel will make a decision. The SAC can still withhold a recommendation for certification and write separately to the GMC if there is a conflict but hopefully this process will prevent late surprises as issues will be identified earlier. This new process will apply for all applications after 1 June 2016 – (full details can be found at <http://www.jcst.org/uk-trainees/str-trainees/certification-1/2016-onwards-certification>).

This new process mandates that the Liaison Member is in attendance (in person or by VC) for all ARCP meetings where the award of an ARCP 6 is being considered. Please could all TPDs and STC chairs note this change so that the Liaison Member is given as much notice as possible. This is particularly important given the climate and difficulties we are all having in getting time from our employers.

Proforma GDC Letter re. registrable qualification

The GDC has started to issue letters indicating that trainees have a "registrable" dental qualification and this is solely as a result of Patrick Magennis's hard work. This should make CST applications easier. (<http://www.baoms.org.uk/file.aspx?id=444>)

Indicative Numbers

The issue of the indicative numbers is causing concern amongst some trainees and trainers. The curriculum is clearly defined and for a recommendation to be made to the GMC in support of the award of a CST there must be evidence that all aspects of the curriculum have been covered. The indicative numbers are purely indicative and are considered in the context of WBAs and written reports. Applicants, whatever their career aspirations need to demonstrate that all areas of the curriculum have been covered. This appears to be causing some difficulty with paediatric craniofacial and cleft surgery in particular. Success in the Intercollegiate FRCS is not evidence that this clinical work has been covered.

Regional Representation at SAC

One of the great things my predecessor (Steve Dover) did was to ensure that there was good regional representation on the SAC and if there are concerns or a wish to seek changes in the curriculum (which requires GMC approval) please feed this back to your regional rep or to me directly.

OMFS Bootcamps for new higher trainees

It is the intention of the SAC to run a bootcamp for all new trainees recruited to the specialty. Daljit Dhariwal has worked very hard and successfully obtained commitments of funding from both Synthes and Stryker. Rishi Bhandari has kindly agreed to take this forward and develop this further. We hope the first bootcamp will be available for the August 2016 intake. The aim is for the bootcamp to be free for trainees to attend. If anyone is interested in getting involved please contact Rishi directly (omfsrb@gmail.com).

Curriculum development

Emma Woolley and Cyrus Kerawala are leading on our curriculum development and we are currently working to update the curriculum. Anyone interested in helping shape the curriculum please contact us as this is time demanding and we need all the help we can get.

Please contact Emma or Cyrus if you would like to help (ejwoolley@doctors.org.uk c.kerawala@googlemail.com).

National Recruitment

Ian Holland has taken over from Kanak Patel as lead. Many thanks to Kanak for all his hard work in running the process so well for the past few years. We are currently about to start a small piece of research to see if performance at the selection process predicts performance as a trainee. The results of this work should be available in the next few months. Involvement is crucial to the process working and we are always seeking volunteers to assist in the process. As you will be aware the process is administered and run by the South West Deanery and they provide excellent support, the process is robust and the external lay input is both very helpful and supportive.

Whilst some yearn for the old system of local appointments the national system is unlikely to change and those who are nostalgic are encouraged to participate and work with the system rather than complain.

For those regions making academic appointments, which are strongly supported by the SAC we would encourage the use of the national selection process for benchmarking and we can incorporate a special "local academic interview station" for specific academic posts within the national recruitment selection day. If you have any queries or questions please contact Ian Holland directly (Ian.Holland@ggc.scot.nhs.uk).

Intercollegiate Examination

The SAC is not responsible for the examination however please could all educational supervisors review the regulations regarding signing trainees for the examination. The regulations regarding timing and resits have changed and there is less flexibility, this means that there are even more reasons not to support candidates entering the examination until they are ready. Letting the outcome of the examination decide whether a candidate is ready does a great disservice to the individual trainee and may result in significant censure from the Intercollegiate examinations board.

Faculty of Dental Surgery & JCST:

After being hosted by the Faculty of Dental Surgery for many years the OMFS SAC has now moved to the main JCST office. Mr Sam Lewis will be our new specialty manager from 3 March 2016, (slewis@jcst.org). He has significant experience as specialty manager for Trauma and Orthopaedics and so I am sure we will be well looked after.

This move is occurring just after Ms Sarah Lay, who has been our specialty manager since 2012, was successful in her application for the post of QA Manager at the JCST (so we will still have plenty to

do with her). We all wish her well in her new post and are extremely grateful for the fantastic job she has done for our trainees, keeping the SAC running and in line.

Shortened Specialty Training – Run Through Max

Both the PMETB and GMC reviews advised that our training pathway should be shortened and we have been working with various colleagues to incorporate the second degree (either Medicine or Dentistry) into a “run through max” training programme. We are currently exploring the possibility of running a pilot in Glasgow and seeking the appropriate approvals and funding. I will keep you informed of progress.

Training Interface Group Fellowships (TIGs):

There is currently a review taking place regarding the organisation of the TIGs and this will be making its final recommendation next month. It is anticipated that the existing fellowships will continue but their administrative organisation will be different. I will keep you posted of developments. It is possible that in the fullness of time the 3 month cosmetic/reconstructive fellowships may change in format and content, taking into account the introduction of certification in cosmetic surgical procedures.

(<https://www.rcseng.ac.uk/surgeons/surgical-standards/working-practices/cosmetic-surgery/certification-updates>)

eLogbook Validation and Coding Update

Across surgery, the importance of electronic validation of the eLogbook has been recognised. This will mean a change of practice from what has been a sporadic validation or the signing consolidation sheets in the past, to efficient contemporaneous validation using the eLogbook software. Trainees, who have the most to gain, will have to drive this. Trainers will benefit from having their eLogbook populated by the practice.

Synthes and BAOMS have supported a major update of the procedure codes. The only area where practice needs to be changed is where a trainee performs an osteotomy they should add one of the new SAC super-codes as well as coding details of the operation on the eLogbook.

Further information will be on the BAOMS website

List of OMFS TPDs

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