

JCST Newsletter – Curriculum issue

JCST Leadership Team – 2018-2020

Gareth Griffiths – JCST Chair



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We are privileged to have been appointed to these roles within JCST and recognise the responsibility they carry. We hope to use all of the opportunities available to us to the maximum benefit of patient care and training quality. Three large areas of work that we are already developing are:

- 1) Development of the surgical curricula in line with the GMC's new curriculum standards.

- 2) Our role in the *Improving Surgical Training* pilot, an important project that has great potential to improve training delivery.
- 3) The role of JCST in the quality assurance, quality management and quality control of surgical training.

JCST secretariat

Our previous Head of JCST, Sallie Nicholas, has now moved on to new challenges and we wish her well in these. We are delighted that Susana Cipriano, former Deputy Head of JCST and Head of Trainee Services, has been appointed as the new Head of JCST.

The JCST Trainee Services Team won awards for “Team of the Year” and “Leader of the Year” in the annual RCSEng Staff Awards. Congratulations to staff and thank you for all the support throughout 2017.

JCST Fee

The fee is set by the Joint Surgical Colleges (RCSEd, RCSEng, RCPSG, RCSI) at their January meeting each year. The joint Colleges have agreed to freeze the JCST fee at £260 for the coming training year (August 2018 to August 2019). Further information on the JCST finances can be found [here](#).

Curriculum development

All medical specialties must update their curricula by 2020. These will have to:

- meet the [GMC's new standards for curricula](#)
- incorporate [Generic Professional Capabilities](#)
- demonstrate how the five themes of the [Shape of Training](#) report are met:
 - Curricula must meet patient and service needs
 - Curricula must ensure participation in emergency care and continuity
 - Curricula must describe how care might be delivered in the community (recognised

- as being less relevant to surgery)
- Flexibility within training should be increased
- Curricula should identify areas of practice potentially suitable for credentialing in future

We have submitted proposals for Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery and Otolaryngology. The GMC are broadly supportive of these and we are now working on the details. Future developments will include a pilot of a new training and assessment process (*'Capabilities in Practice'* and a *'Multiple-Consultant Report'*), prior to further discussions with the GMC.

We are in the process of identifying a work schedule to ensure that all 11 surgical curricula are ready for implementation by the GMC's 2020 deadline.

Fellowships and Credentialing

The joint Colleges recently gave approval for JCST to develop an approach to managing formal post-certification training fellowships. We are starting the process to scope out this work and will involve all stakeholders as we take plans forward.

The JCST already helps manage the [Training Interface Group](#) fellowships, and the GMC and the Shape of Training Steering Group have indicated a desire to introduce credentialed training in specified areas of practice. There is an exciting opportunity to extend the principles of formal training to post-certification fellowships, providing instruction in areas of practice beyond those currently included in the specialty curricula.

Use of the Core Surgical Training curriculum and ISCP by trainees in Iceland

Arrangements are being explored for Core-level trainees in Iceland to follow the Core Surgical Training curriculum and use the

ISCP. This is currently at an early stage and we will include updates in future newsletters.

Trainer Area on ISCP (in conjunction with the Faculty of Surgical Trainers)

The Colleges have funded a Trainer Area which is now live on the ISCP website. It is intended to improve the quality of training by helping trainers to reflect on their training delivery, to meet the Faculty of Surgical Trainers standards for training and, in so doing, collecting the evidence required for GMC recognition as a trainer. A video on how to use this area is on the [JCST YouTube channel](#).

Other updates

Improving Surgical Training (IST)

The [IST](#) project board has identified pilot training sites and preparations are underway for the first IST trainees to take up post in August 2018. This first cohort was recruited during the 2018 Core Surgery national interviews.

Training events are being planned for lead trainers prior to the pilot start date – look out for them later this year.

Bullying, Undermining and Harassment

All forms of bullying, undermining and harassment are unacceptable. [JCST has issued a statement to this effect](#) and is developing a toolkit to help anyone who is impacted by the subject. We encourage all trainees and trainers across the UK to complete the [RCSEd's online e-module](#) and to read the [RCSEng guidance on Unconscious Bias](#).

Your feedback - Parallel "training" schemes

The GMC has asked us to collect information about local schemes intended to mirror formal training for doctors who are not in a GMC recognised training programme. Do you know of any such schemes? Are there any positive or negative

impacts on formal training in areas where they exist? We would be very interested to [hear from you](#) about any schemes in your local area.

Exception Reporting

JCST strongly encourages trainees on the new contract in England to submit [exception reports](#) should training opportunities be missed for any reason, including service pressures.

Cultural Awareness Guidance for Surgeons

A new professional development online eCourse will soon be available for surgeons on the ISCP. Entitled *Cultural Awareness Guidance for Surgeons*, this short eCourse gives instructions and guidance on cultural difference, and its impact on surgeons and patients. With embedded videos, it also gives advice and tips on how to work harmoniously with those from different cultural backgrounds. Based on the knowledge that cultural awareness is now a required part of surgical training, this eCourse should help improve workplace practice and training. It comprises three interactive modules, each taking around 30-45 minutes to complete. CPD points are available for each module:

- **Module 1 – Language**
Guidance on how to speak appropriately to people from different cultures, showing typical characteristics of language, both verbal and non-verbal.
- **Module 2 – Politeness**
Guidance on understanding the two universal components of politeness, giving instruction on how cultures convey politeness differently.
- **Module 3 – Power and Status**
Guidance on how cultures react differently to power and status and tips on how to address those differences in positive ways in surgical practice.

Cultural Awareness Guidance for Surgeons will be located in the pink 'eCourses' box on the ISCP homepage in the coming weeks.

YouTube channel

We now have a [JCST/ISCP YouTube channel](#) where you can view instructional videos on using the ISCP and our new content on cultural awareness.

Changes to the way we use your data

On 25 May 2018, the [General Data Protection Regulations](#), known as GDPR, will replace the Data Protection Act.

We take your data privacy seriously, so in response to this new regulation, we will be changing our Terms & Conditions, developing functionality on the ISCP website and updating JCST's in-house processes to ensure that we are compliant with GDPR.

GDPR is a positive step towards you having more control over how your data is used and how you are contacted by organisations. The changes will also help to better protect your personal data. You can find more information about GDPR on the [Information Commissioners Office](#) website.

Contact information

You can contact the JCST office for further information on jcst@jcst.org and 0207 869 6299. Follow us on Twitter @JCST_Surgery