

## Paediatric Surgery SAC Meeting - 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2009 RCSEng

### Present:

Prof Thomas (chair)  
Mr D. Drake (BAPS)  
Mr P. Malone (BAPU)  
Mr M. Davenport (Joint colleges rep)  
Mr G. Lamont (Intercollegiate specialty board rep)  
Mr F. Quinn (RCSI)  
Mr G. Haddock (Joint colleges rep)  
Mr M. Barrett (BAPS)  
Ms R. Hitchcock (BAPS)  
Ms C. Rees (trainee rep)  
Daniel Waeland – QA RCS

### The following items of interest to trainees were discussed:

1. JCST
  - Subspecialty discussion re paediatric urology – has not progressed any further, but various models being discussed, including ‘advanced urology’ module in exam.
  - Going through PMETB as separate subspecialty will take time and money.
2. Workforce
  - EWTD opt-out discussed. For practical purposes we will be moving to 48hrs. End of last week was deadline for SHAs to apply for derogation to 52hrs for 2 years, 28 applied. DoH will take to European Parliament for permission.
  - Colleges in Scotland have written to Scottish Parliament to request opt-out for all surgical specialties.
3. Future of consortia
  - COPMed new structure is not going to affect existing consortia, will be administrative only (COPMed structure is 3 large consortia for England and 1 for devolved nations).
4. National selection
  - Head of School of surgery in London is not pro- national selection
  - London STC was not keen to change a system which works
  - Majority of specialties will be progressing to national selection in 2010
  - Advantage – workforce planning
  - Devolved nations not included, although some surgical subspecialties in Scotland have elected to join UK national selection (neurosurgery, thoracic)
5. Maximum training capacities
  - PMETB has issued a list of number of training posts and hospitals, but not matched up. All specialties to define and confirm specific numbers. Training programme directors have not all responded (across all surgical specialties).
6. Annual specialty review
  - Report for PMETB from SAC
  - This is first year
  - STC liaison members will have to complete forms to SAC chair who will collate info for annual specialty report.

- DT proposes to check for concerns or examples of best practice from STC liaison members and CR agreed to flag up any trainees concerns.
7. Liaison member reports
- Mr Malone suggests that Liaison member for Urology should be someone not involved in training the national paediatric urology trainees.
  - Mr Malone has been asked to stand as BAPU member on Urology SAC so seeks to resign from Paeds Surgery SAC. Role of BAPU rep and liaison member may be separated.
8. JCST meeting 26/1/09
- Report from DT
  - Article 14 - new applications are diminishing, one problem is test of knowledge (intercollegiate exam) – RCS and SAC has always taken view that exam is essential. European exam is not equivalent, but may be accepted if other circumstances make it appropriate. North American exam does not include urology, so is not equivalent. Australian exam is equivalent.
  - MMC – Dr Pat Hamilton (Chair of RCPCH) has been appointed to chair of Medical Education England (recommended by Tooke report) – will take over from MMC board.
  - Core training will be responsibility of schools of surgery, but overseen by JCST for curriculum development. 3 year programme envisaged for 2010.
9. ISCP
- Concern that trainers not engaging – Eraut report.
  - No minimum number of assessments defined -I requested that trainees receive clarity on this.
10. Consultant workforce
- 2009 – 140 England, 5 Wales, 20 Scotland, 6 NI
  - 9 business cases in England, 1 Scotland, 0 Wales/NI
  - UK total was 143 in 2005, now 171 = 5%pa
11. Future of consortia
- Newcastle and Hull joining Yorkshire/Trent
  - Hull ?for junior trainees
12. Person specification
- Limit on training had been set by paediatric surgery but has been lost from person spec (i.e. not >3yrs SHO equivalent in specialty). Will be important for national selection at ST3.
13. JCST standard document
- Are the standards aspirational or a requirement?
  - Standards set for trainees and trainers.