



# ABNT NEWSLETTER

## WELCOME

Welcome to the Spring 2014 ABNT newsletter. We hope to update you on important news relating to Neurology training and to seek your opinion on relevant issues. You can find contact details for the ABNT committee at the bottom of the email.

## SHAPE OF TRAINING

The Shape of (SoT) report, published in October 2013, advises on the future of medical training in the UK, recommending changes in order to meet evolving service demands. It is important to be aware of the SoT report as there are **likely to be significant implications for neurology training**. A key concern is that the report leaves much ambiguity about the specifics of implementation, making it even more crucial that we engage in debate in order to preserve the quality of our specialist training.

The key proposals and their possible implications include:

- The point of registration would move to the end of medical school rather than end of F1 year. This would allow overseas candidates to compete for F1 jobs.
- All medical trainees will follow “broad specialty themed” programmes for four to six years, replacing the current core medical and specialty training years, with an emphasis on general medicine and limited opportunity to specialise.
- One further optional year is then allowed for specialty training, after which trainees would be given a CCT. It is envisaged that further specialisation would occur post-CCT, with the potential to create a sub-consultant tier to the workforce.

The BMA support the provision of training that aims to meet service demands, and also supports flexibility of training, but has serious concerns about shortening training, and about trainees being able to acquire specialist competencies if they are required to follow “generalist” training.

The ABN Council has expressed concerns about SoT as it stands. However, compromise may be reached by Neurologists offering to become more involved with inpatient neurology.

- The ABN is committed to ensuring preservation of specialist neurology training.
- There will be a session dedicated to the Shape of Training at the ABN meeting in Cardiff.
- There will be an opportunity for members, including trainees, to vote on future ABN action regarding Shape of Training at the Cardiff ABN Annual General Meeting.
- There will also be a section on Shape of Training on the ABN conference app.

Contact: Helen Devine ([helen.devine10@gmail.com](mailto:helen.devine10@gmail.com))

## COMPLETION OF TRAINING

From 1st April 2014, the GMC will introduce a **time limit on CCT applications**. Doctors will need to submit their applications within 12 months of completion. For more information see [www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/registration\\_news/14249.asp](http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/registration_news/14249.asp)

Competency based training: the JRCPTB have confirmed that trainees may complete training in less than the standard length if the Training Programme Director is satisfied that the trainee has achieved the required competencies.

Training programme directors are being advised by the JRCPTB to ensure that work based placement assessments are spread throughout the year otherwise they will not be awarded satisfactory ARCPs. If this happens twice, they will consider extending time in programme.

A survey was conducted by the Neurology Specialist Advisory Committee to determine how many trainees have found themselves without a consultant job following their period of grace (6 months after CCT). In the last 3 years, only one trainee was without a job at the end of their grace period.

Contact: Emma Tallantyre ([emma.tallantyre@nhs.net](mailto:emma.tallantyre@nhs.net))

## FELLOWSHIPS

### *Australasian fellowships*

The ABN and SAC are currently looking to appoint three UK trainees for a 12-month fellowship in Australasia which provides 12 months accreditation towards CCT. Deadline: 15th March 2014. See <http://www.theabn.org/Newsdetails.aspx?news=446> for details.

### *Post-CCT fellowships*

The RCP is interesting in accrediting post-CCT fellowships. The College has invited specialties to scrutinise applications from potential centres. Proposed fellowships include the Neurophysiology of Epilepsy, the Neurophysiology of Neuromuscular disorders, Dementia, Neuromuscular Disease and Stroke Medicine.

### *Clinical Research Training Fellowships*

Details of the 2014 ABN clinical fellowship scheme are due to be announced during the first quarter 2014. Keep an eye on the ABN website for further details.

Contact: Emma Tallantyre ([emma.tallantyre@nhs.net](mailto:emma.tallantyre@nhs.net))

## ABNT WEBSITE

The new ABNT website ([www.abnt.org.uk](http://www.abnt.org.uk)) will be an up-to-date resource for trainees and potential trainees and will include sections on regional rotations, exams, flexible training, career development and will feature podcast interviews with interesting figures within the speciality. We are still developing the site and welcome any feedback you have. The ABNT section will form part of the new ABN website, due to go live imminently. If you would like to contribute to the ABNT website, please get in touch.

Contact : Ann Donnelly ([doctordonnely2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:doctordonnely2002@yahoo.co.uk)) or Zhaleh Khaleeli ([zhalehkhaleeli@hotmail.com](mailto:zhalehkhaleeli@hotmail.com))

## FLEXIBLE TRAINING

The ABNT also wishes to represent flexible trainees, and plans to ensure that the information about training less-than-full-time is readily available, accurate and up-to-date (via the ABNT website). We are keen to hear about the positive and negative experiences of flexible trainees in all regions so that we can highlight any relevant issues.

Contact : Ann Donnelly ([doctordonnely2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:doctordonnely2002@yahoo.co.uk)) or Zhaleh Khaleeli ([zhalehkhaleeli@hotmail.com](mailto:zhalehkhaleeli@hotmail.com))

## E-PORTFOLIO AND CURRICULUM

- For trainees who remain on the 2007 Neurology curriculum, the deadline for transfer to the 2010 curriculum is December 2015.
- There is a new assessment on the e-portfolio called the Multiple Consultant Report (MCR). Each trainee must have 4 MCRs completed by clinical consultants per year. These reports assist the Educational Supervisor in completing their report for ARCP.
- It is likely that in the future Neurology trainees will be required to provide evidence of their ability to oversee thrombolysis. It may be good practice to start logging stroke calls for your e-portfolio.

Contact: Emma Tallantyre ([emma.tallantyre@nhs.net](mailto:emma.tallantyre@nhs.net))

## ABNT MENTORING PROGRAMME

The ABNT have set up a Mentoring Programme in Neurology, with the aim of supporting junior doctors who show an interest in Neurology, enabling them to manage their career development in an effective and efficient manner. The aim is to develop a scheme that consists of a number of one-to-one mentor-mentee relationships between Neurology Registrars and junior doctors interested in a career in Neurology. Mentors can offer advice about career progression and general support and guidance in developing a career in Neurology. For more information and details of how to volunteer, please see the ABNT website ([www.abnt.org.uk/mentoring.php](http://www.abnt.org.uk/mentoring.php)). We will be arranging training for mentors in the coming months and allocating mentees prior to the ABN conference in May.

Contact: Jon Rohrer ([j.rohrer@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:j.rohrer@ucl.ac.uk))

## FEEDBACK AND CONTACTS

### ABNT Representatives

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