



ROYAL
COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS
OF IRELAND

Specialty Specific Standards

Cardiology

2020

Introduction

All Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) training sites that specialise in Cardiology will be required to achieve and maintain the accreditation standards detailed in this document. The Accreditation Office manages the process of inspecting and accrediting training sites.

General Information

Training Site			
Address			
Telephone			
Head of department			
Telephone		Email address	

1. SUPERVISION	
1.1	There must be a FTE consultant Cardiologist to supervise trainees and provide training in and supervision of Cardiology procedures.
1.2	A lead trainer will be assigned and available to trainees for clinical activities and meet with the trainees for informal teaching.
1.3	Meetings between the trainer and trainee must occur on a minimum 3-monthly basis. Monthly meetings are strongly recommended.
1.4	Trainers are supported by the training site and RCPI to be given the time and resources to meet their supervision requirements
2. CASE LOAD	
2.1	Trainees must gain adequate experience in diagnostic procedures and surgical skills throughout their training programme. The quantity and variety of the workload available to Cardiology trainees must be sufficient to meet the requirements detailed in the current RCPI Cardiology curriculum.
2.2	It is essential that there be adequate numbers and variations of patients that participate in the services provided. Trainees must experience adequate and supervised consultations.
2.3	Trainees must have the opportunity to partake in both ward rounds and consultations.
3. RESOURCES	
3.1	Trainees must have access to appropriate learning resources and facilities, including up-to-date medical literature and online journal access appropriate for Cardiology specialist training.
3.2	Trainees must have access to the infrastructure required to support a Cardiology service. E.g. Standard diagnostics: ECG, Echocardiography, Holter, Stress tests, Pacing checks, 24 hour BP analysis, Cardiac CT and Cardiovascular magnetic resonance imaging (CMR). Standard procedures: Trans-oesophageal echocardiogram (TOE), Angiography, Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI), Pacing and Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators (ICD). Experience in: Cardiac catheterisation labs, Coronary Care Unit (CCU), Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Cardiac Rehabilitation
4. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES	
4.1	The training site should provide formal training including; Lectures, tutorials and grand rounds
4.2	Trainees should be provided with the opportunity to teach junior colleagues, undergraduates and allied health professionals
4.3	The site should provide opportunities for trainees to develop research interests on site or through affiliation with appropriate research institutions