



**ROYAL  
COLLEGE OF  
PHYSICIANS  
OF IRELAND**

# **Specialty Specific Standards**

## **Nephrology**

2020

# Introduction

All Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) training sites that specialise in nephrology will be required to achieve and maintain the accreditation standards detailed in this document in conjunction with RCPI's Generic Accreditation Standards. The Accreditation Committee manages the process of inspecting and accrediting training sites.

## General Information

Training Site			
Address			
Telephone			
Head of department			
Telephone		Email address	

<b>1. SUPERVISION</b>	
<b>1.1</b>	There must be one full time equivalent consultant Nephrologist to supervise each trainee and provide training in and supervision of nephrology clinical experience, workplace based assessments and procedures.
<b>1.2</b>	A lead trainer will be assigned and available to trainees for clinical activities and to meet with the trainees for teaching including workplace based assessments.
<b>1.3</b>	Meetings between the trainer and trainee must occur on a minimum 3-monthly basis and eportfolio assessment / evaluation forms should be completed. Monthly meetings are strongly recommended.
<b>1.4</b>	Trainers are supported by the training site and RCPI to be given the time and resources to meet their supervision requirements.
<b>2. CASE LOAD</b>	
<b>2.1</b>	Trainees must gain adequate experience in diagnostic procedures and procedural skills throughout their training programme. The quantity and variety of the workload available to nephrology trainees must be sufficient to meet the <b>requirements</b> of the curriculum, over the course of their programme. Sites approved for high intensity nephrology training must provide training in all procedures detailed in the curriculum.
<b>2.2</b>	It is essential that there be access to adequate numbers and variety of patients in the services provided. Trainees must experience adequate and supervised inpatient and outpatient experience, as detailed in the minimum requirements of the curriculum. Sites approved for high intensity nephrology must also provide training in sub-speciality clinics e.g. obstetric nephrology.
<b>2.3</b>	Trainees must have the opportunity to partake in on-call work. Sites approved for high intensity nephrology must have nephrology on-call and be free of any general internal medicine exposure.
<b>2.4</b>	Trainees must gain experience in acute transplantation and so should spend a minimum of 6 months in a hospital where this service is provided (Beaumont Hospital).
<b>3. RESOURCES</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	Trainees must have access to appropriate learning resources and facilities, including up-to-date medical literature and online journal access appropriate for nephrology specialist training.
<b>3.2</b>	Trainees must have access to the infrastructure required to support a nephrology service. <i>E.g. chemical pathology, haematology and histopathology laboratories, radiology and urine microscopy materials.</i>
<b>4. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	The training site should provide a minimum of 2 hours of formal specialty specific teaching / training per week including lectures and tutorials.
<b>4.2</b>	Trainees should be provided with the opportunity to teach junior colleagues, undergraduates and allied health professionals.
<b>4.3</b>	The site should provide opportunities for trainees to develop research interests on site or through affiliation with appropriate research institutions. They should also facilitate audit and quality improvement projects.

<b>4.4</b>	Apart from exceptional clinical circumstances, trainees should be released to attend all of their mandatory study days to meet their curriculum requirements.
<b>4.5</b>	Trainees should have access to a range of other educational activities to meet their training requirements e.g. multi-disciplinary team meetings, pathology conferences etc.