



ROYAL  
COLLEGE OF  
PHYSICIANS  
OF IRELAND

# Specialty Specific Standards

## *Obstetrics & Gynaecology*

2020

# Introduction

All Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) training sites that specialise in Obstetrics and Gynaecology 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	

<b>1. SUPERVISION</b>	
<b>1.1</b>	There must be one full-time equivalent (FTE) O&G consultant to supervise each trainee (HST) and provide training in and supervision of O&G clinical experience, assessments and procedures. For BST trainees, the trainee to trainer ratio is expected to be 2:1. It is noted that O&G Consultants may work across different hospital sites.
<b>1.2</b>	A lead trainer (registered with RCPI) should be assigned and available to trainees for clinical activities and meet with the trainees for informal teaching, including workplace based assessments. This should be achievable on the larger (e.g tertiary) clinical sites but may not be practicable or necessary at smaller clinical sites.
<b>1.3</b>	Meetings between the trainer and trainee must occur on a minimum 3-monthly basis and e-portfolio assessment / evaluation forms should be completed, including quarterly assessment forms. 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 surgical skills throughout their training programme. The quantity and variety of the workload available to O&G trainees must be sufficient to meet the <b>minimum requirements</b> detailed in the current RCPI O&G curriculum.
<b>2.2</b>	It is essential that there be adequate numbers and variety of patients that participate in the services provided. Trainees must experience a range of adequate and supervised inpatient and outpatient experience, as detailed in the <b>minimum requirements</b> detailed in the O&G curriculum.
<b>2.3</b>	Trainees must have the opportunity to partake in both ward rounds, consultations and MDT Meetings.
<b>2.4</b>	Trainees must have the opportunity to partake in on-call work.
<b>2.5</b>	Trainees must have the opportunity to attend specialised clinical services, as appropriate for the site and as per the full O&G curriculum.
<b>2.6</b>	Caseload should be supported, as appropriate, by clinical midwife/nurse specialists, social work and allied health professionals.
<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 O&G basic and higher specialist training.
<b>3.2</b>	Trainees must have access to the infrastructure for their working arrangements: office space, access to dedicated computer, administrative support, and adequate accommodation for 'on call' activities.
<b>3.3</b>	Trainees must have access to the infrastructure required to support an O&G service.  Laboratory, Microbiology, Pathology and Radiology services. Gynaecology and Obstetrics ultrasound services including an early pregnancy clinic and fetal assessment unit. Ambulatory Gynaecology services and pre-operative assessment clinics. Emergency department or emergency assessment unit for O&G. Obstetrics and/or Gynaecology theatres.

#### 4. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

4.1	The training site should provide formal specialty-specific training including; Lectures, tutorials and grand rounds. Attendance at teaching opportunities should be facilitated.
4.2	The training site should be able to provide MDT meetings in the appropriate areas of the specialty of O&G, according to the size and complexity of the site. Trainees should be facilitated to attend.
4.3	Trainees should be provided with the opportunity to teach junior colleagues, undergraduates and allied health professionals.
4.4	Trainees should be released to attend external training programme (BST; HST) requirements, e.g. study days, mandatory courses.
4.5	The site should provide opportunities for trainees to develop research interests on site or through affiliation with appropriate research institutions. The site should also facilitate audit and quality improvement projects.