



ROYAL
COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS
OF IRELAND

Specialty Specific Standards

Public Health Medicine

2022

Introduction

All Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) training sites that specialise in Public Health Medicine 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 Public Health specialist/consultant available to supervise trainees and provide training in and supervision of Public Health Medicine and a contingency arrangement in place, should they be unavailable.
1.2	A lead trainer will be assigned within each training location, to support training arrangements locally and engage with the NSD office and Specialty Training Committee on behalf of the training site.
1.3	A trainer will be appointed for each trainee who will be responsible for ensuring a training plan is developed and provision of formal and informal teaching.
1.4	Formal meetings between the trainer and trainee to review progress must occur on a minimum 3-monthly basis. Monthly meetings are strongly recommended or more frequently if necessary.
1.5	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 throughout their training programme. The quantity and variety of the workload available to Public Health trainees must be sufficient to meet the requirements detailed in the current RCPI Public Health curriculum.
2.2	Trainees must have the opportunity to undertake clinical engagements where appropriate (e.g. contact tracing), interact with other healthcare professionals, and be involved in both operational and strategic meetings.
2.3	Trainees must be given opportunities to develop skills and competencies appropriate to their stage of training and with a level of supervision appropriate to their stage of training.
2.4	Trainees must be afforded protected study time and study leave to undertake exams, Public Health Reports and other projects. The demands of the service may impact on the timing of such leave.
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 Public Health specialist training.
3.2	Trainees must have access to the infrastructure required to support a Public Health service e.g. access to statistical software (Excel, R, SPSS or STATA)
4. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES	
4.1	The training site should provide formal training, e.g., 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