



**ROYAL
COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS
OF IRELAND**

Specialty Specific Standards

Rheumatology

2020

Introduction

All Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) training sites that specialise in Rheumatology 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.

The document identifies core requirements for all sites offering rheumatology training.

Additional items (denoted *) identify sites that may offer subspecialty expertise. This is to enable mapping of trainee interests to available resources as part of the annual assessment process.

General Information

Training Site			
Address			
Telephone			
Head of Department			
Telephone		Email address	

1. SUPERVISION	
1.1	There must be a FTE consultant Rheumatologist to supervise trainees and provide training in and supervision of Rheumatology 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

Consultants involved in the supervision of Rheumatology trainees

Name	Registered RCPI Trainer (Course)	FTE
Departmental Staff	Number	
Rheumatology Nurse Specialist		
Advanced Nurse Practitioner*		
Occupational Therapist*		
Physiotherapist		
Clinical Specialist Physiotherapist*		
SpR		
Registrars		
Senior House Officers		
Interns		

How often do trainees and trainers meet?		Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly
Do consultants have dedicated time to supervise the trainees?			Yes	No
If 'Yes', how much dedicated time is allocated per week?			__Hours	
Are trainers available during clinical activities undertaken by trainees?			Yes	No
Do trainers observe direct patient care and procedures performed by the trainee?			Yes	No
Please detail trainee supervision structure (attach)				

Rheumatology in patient consultation per year			
		# consults seen per month	
Rheumatology Consultant led consultation rounds			
		# frequency per week	
Do Rheumatology trainees participate in the following in-house activities?			
	✓		Please provide details
Audit			
Clinical governance			
Clinical Trials*			
Translational research*			
Other (<i>please describe</i>)			
Do trainees have the opportunity to attain clinical experience with the following categories of patients?			
	✓		Please provide details
Systemic Vasculitis*			
Connective tissue disease*			
Unspecified multi-system disorders*			
Will trainees receive satisfactory experience to meet the minimum requirements for competence in the following procedures/practical skills/surgical skills?			
	✓		Please provide details
Crystal analysis*			
1 st CMC joint			
Wrist joint*			
Shoulder (gleno-humeral) joint – anterior approach			
Shoulder joint – medial approach			
Knee joint - medial approach			
Knee joint – lateral approach*			
Ankle joint*			

1 st MTP joint*		
Hand-flexor tendon nodule*		
De Quervain's tenosynovitis*		
Carpal tunnel*		
Lateral epicondylitis		
Subacromial bursa		
Trochanteric bursitis		
Anserine bursitis*		
Plantar fascia*		
Mortons neuroma*		
Additional experience gained (<i>please detail</i>)		

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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 Rheumatology specialist training.			
3.2	Trainees must have access to the infrastructure required to support a Rheumatology service. E.g.			
Do trainees have access to the following;				
	On site		Within Network	
Crystal microscopy*- in department	Yes	No	Yes	No
Capillaroscopy	Yes	No	Yes	No
Crystal microscopy*- on site/ laboratory	Yes	No	Yes	No
Ultrasound- static machine*	Yes	No	Yes	No
Ultrasound –portable machine*	Yes	No	Yes	No
Access to musculoskeletal imaging facilities- MRI, CT scanning, PET/CT, Nuclear Medicine including isotope bone scanning, bone mineral density scanning	Yes	No	Yes	No
Access to tertiary referral specialist services:				
Orthopaedics	Yes	No	Yes	No
Plastic surgery	Yes	No	Yes	No
Neurology	Yes	No	Yes	No
Neurophysiology	Yes	No	Yes	No
Respiratory	Yes	No	Yes	No
Nephrology	Yes	No	Yes	No
Obstetrics	Yes	No	Yes	No
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			
Are the following activities provided at this site;				
	Yes	No	Frequency (monthly)	
Lecture	Yes	No		
Tutorials	Yes	No		
Bedside teaching	Yes	No		

Grand rounds	Yes	No	
Journal club	Yes	No	
Undergraduate teaching opportunities	Yes	No	
Do trainees receive protected time to attend:			
			Frequency (monthly)
Mandatory courses	Yes	No	
MDT meetings	Yes	No	
Radiology MDT	Yes	No	
Study days (organised by NSD)	Yes	No	
Research			
Do trainees have the opportunity to present research at national and/or international meetings?	Yes	No	
Do Trainees have opportunities to author or co-author in publications?	Yes	No	