



**FACULTY OF  
PAEDIATRICS**

ROYAL COLLEGE OF  
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

International Clinical Fellowship Programme in

# PAEDIATRIC INFECTIOUS DISEASES

OUTCOME-BASED EDUCATION – OBE CURRICULUM



This ICFP curriculum in Paediatric Infectious Diseases was developed in 2026 by Dr Paddy Gavin, and the RCPI Education Team. It is approved by the Paediatrics Training Committee and the Institute of Paediatrics.

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## INTRODUCTION

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*This section includes information on the structure and management of this International Clinical Fellowship Programme (ICFP). For specific policies and procedures please contact your Programme Coordinator.*

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## ICFP Overview

The International Clinical Fellowship Programme (ICFP) provides a route for overseas doctors wishing to undergo structured and advanced postgraduate medical training in Ireland. The ICFP enables suitably qualified overseas postgraduate medical Trainees to undertake a fixed period of active training in clinical services in Ireland.

The purpose of the ICFP is to enable overseas Trainees to gain access to structured training and active clinical environments, with a view to enhancing and improving the individual's medical training and learning and, in the medium to long term, the health services in their own countries.

This Programme will allow participants to access a structured period of training and experience, as developed by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI), to specifically meet the clinical needs of participants as defined by their home country's health service.

Core elements of all programmes include:

- Patient care that is appropriate, effective and compassionate in dealing with health problems and health promotion.
- Medical knowledge in the basic biomedical, behavioural and clinical sciences, medical ethics and medical jurisprudence, and application of such knowledge in patient care.
- Interpersonal and communication skills that ensure effective information exchange with individual patients and their families and teamwork with other health professionals, the scientific community and the public.
- Appraisal and utilisation of new scientific knowledge to update and continuously improve clinical practice.
- Capability to be a scholar, contributing to development and research in the field of the chosen specialty.
- Professionalism.
- Ability to understand health care and identify and carry out system-based improvement of care.

## ICFP in Paediatric Infectious Diseases

This International Clinical Fellowship Programme (ICFP) provides training in Paediatric Infectious Diseases, with clinical exposure across inpatient, outpatient, intensive care, laboratory, public health, and community-facing infection services. The programme builds on prior postgraduate training in Paediatrics and develops advanced capability in the assessment, investigation, diagnosis, management, and prevention of infection in children and young people. It includes community-acquired and hospital-acquired infection, immunocompromised patients, HIV/AIDS, primary immunodeficiency, congenital and neonatal infection, travel-related and imported infection, vaccinology, antimicrobial stewardship, infection control, and laboratory diagnostic interpretation. Emphasis is placed on evidence-based practice, multidisciplinary collaboration, rational antimicrobial and diagnostic use, and effective interface with multidisciplinary teams.

## Training Programme Duration & Organisation of Training

The clinical training period under this International Clinical Fellowship Programme (ICFP) is two years. Each ICFP developed by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland is designed to meet participants' training needs to support the health service in their home country.

All appointees to the ICFP will be assessed by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland to ensure that they meet the necessary requirements with respect to training and clinical service.

Each post within the programme has a named trainer/educational supervisor and programmes are under the direction of Dr Paddy Gavin.

Successful completion of this ICFP will result in the participant being issued with a formal Certificate of completion for the International Fellowship Programme by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. This Certificate will enable the participant's training body in their sponsoring home country to formally recognise and accredit their time spent training in Ireland.

Appointed International Fellows are:

- Enrolled with RCPI and are under the supervision of a consultant doctor registered on the Specialist Division of the Register of Medical Practitioners maintained by the Irish Medical Council and who is an approved consultant trainer.
- Registered on the Supervised Division of the Register of Medical Practitioners maintained by the Medical Council in Ireland.
- Agreeing on a training plan with their trainers at the beginning of each training year.
- Directly employed and directly paid by their sponsoring state at a rate appropriate to their training level in Ireland and benchmarked against the salary scales applicable to NCHD in Ireland.

## Programme Management

- Coordination of the training programme lies with the Training Department at RCPI.
- The training programme offered will provide opportunities to fulfil all the requirements of the curriculum of training.
- The training year usually runs from July to July in line with National Higher Specialist Training programmes.
- Each International Fellow will be issued with a training agreement on appointment to the training programme and will be required to adhere to all policies and procedures relating to ICFP.
- Annual evaluations usually take place between April and June each year.
- International Fellows will be registered to the ePortfolio and will be expected to fulfil all requirements relating to the management of yearly training records.

## ePortfolio

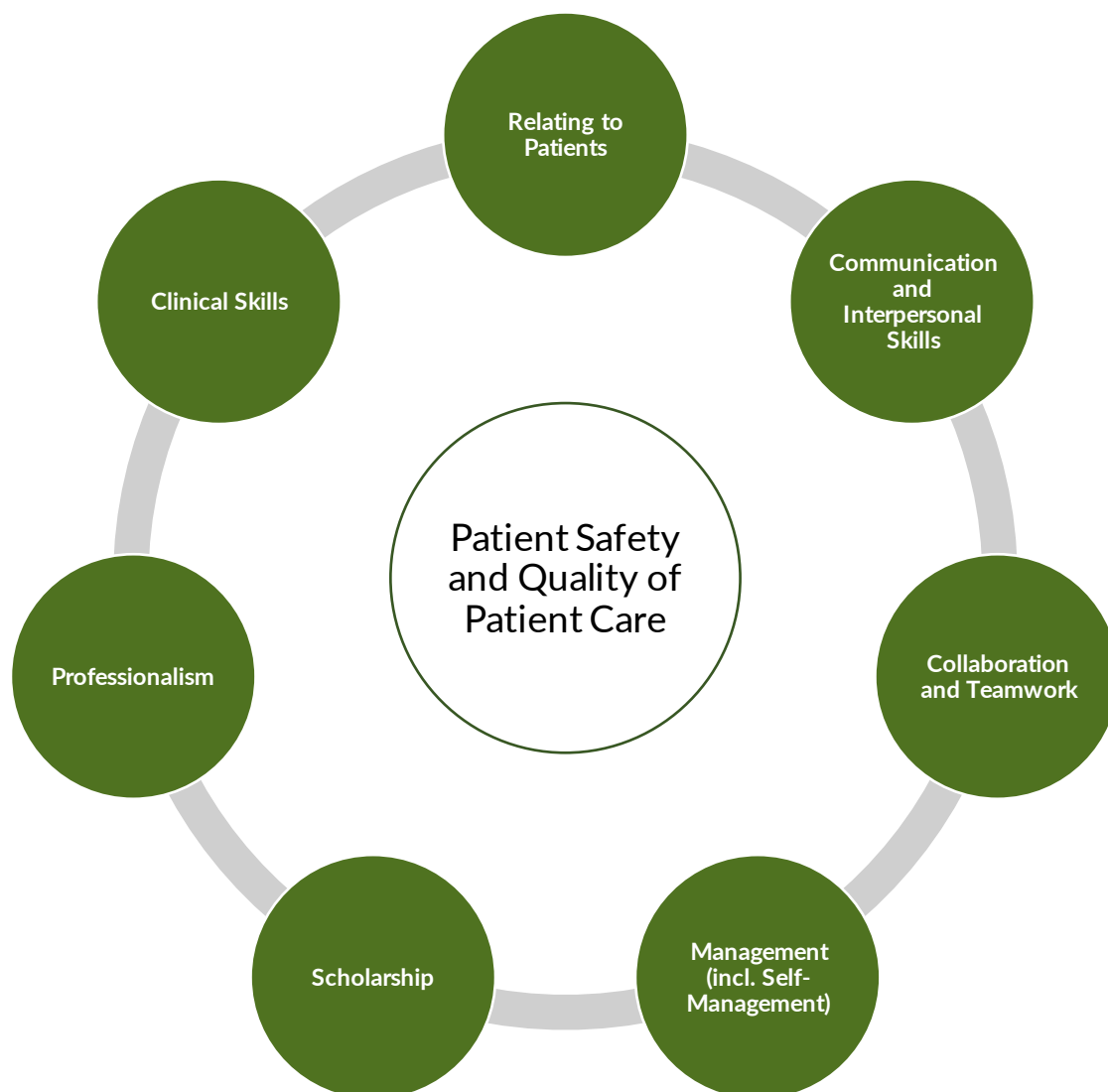
International Fellows will be required to keep their ePortfolio up to date and maintained throughout the programme. The ePortfolio will be countersigned as appropriate by the supervising Trainer to confirm the satisfactory fulfilment of the required training experience and the acquisition of the competencies set out in the Curriculum. This will remain the property of the International Fellow and must be produced at the End of Year Evaluation meeting. At the End of Year Evaluation, the ePortfolio will be examined. The results of any assessments and reports by the named trainer/educational supervisor, together with other material capable of confirming the Fellow's achievements, will be reviewed.

## CORE PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

*The Core Professional Skills define the standards of practice expected of all International Fellows training in Ireland. For RCPI's International Curricula, these skills are detailed by reference to the Irish Medical Council's Eight Domains of Good Professional Practice, which describe the behaviours, responsibilities, and capabilities that support safe, effective, and patient-centred care.*

*The Core Professional Skills are developed through practice-based learning, supervision, review meetings, and structured educational activity. Fellows are expected to develop and demonstrate these skills throughout training, with evidence gathered through workplace-based assessments and ePortfolio documentation.*

*Collectively, the eight domains provide a framework for practice and support professionalism as an integrated component of postgraduate medical training and development.*



## SPECIALTY SECTION - Training Goals – Paediatric Infectious Diseases

*This section includes the Specialty Training Goals that the International Fellow should achieve by the end of the ICFP.*

*Each Training Goal is broken down into specific and measurable Training Outcomes.*

*Per each Training Outcome, International Fellows can record workplace-based assessments (DOPS, MiniCEX, CBD) and Feedback Opportunity on ePortfolio.*

### Specialty Training Goals

#### Training Goal 1 – Clinical Assessment & Management of Infectious Disease

- Outcome 1 Assess and Investigate Suspected or Confirmed Infection
- Outcome 2 Formulate a Diagnosis and Initiate Treatment for Community-Acquired Infection
- Outcome 3 Manage Cross-Specialty Infections and Outpatient Care
- Outcome 4 Contribute to infectious diseases consultation and service development

#### Training Goal 2 – Management of the Immunocompromised Patient

- Outcome 1 Assess and Manage Infection in the Immunocompromised Host
- Outcome 2 Manage HIV/AIDS, co-infection, and antiretroviral therapy
- Outcome 3 Provide continuity, supportive, and multidisciplinary care
- Outcome 4 Apply viral diagnostics

#### Training Goal 3 – Care of the Child with Primary Immunodeficiency

- Outcome 1 Recognise and Investigate Primary Immunodeficiency
- Outcome 2 Initiate Management of Primary Immunodeficiency
- Outcome 3 Recognise Secondary Immunodeficiency

#### Training Goal 4 – Hospital-Acquired Infection & Infection Control

- Outcome 1 Manage Hospital-Acquired Infection
- Outcome 2 Contribute to infection control systems

#### Training Goal 5 – Antimicrobial Stewardship

- Outcome 1 Apply Principles of Antimicrobial Prescribing
- Outcome 2 Apply Prophylactic, Pre-emptive, and Therapeutic Prescribing
- Outcome 3 Contribute to Antimicrobial Stewardship Teams
- Outcome 4 Manage Resistance and Multidrug-Resistant Infection

#### Training Goal 6 – Paediatric & Neonatal Infection

- Outcome 1 Manage Infection in PICU and NICU Settings
- Outcome 2 Diagnose and Manage Congenital and Neonatal Infection

#### Training Goal 7 – Travel Medicine, Vaccinology, Imported Infections, & Inclusion Health

- Outcome 1 Provide Pre-travel Health Advice and Malaria Prevention
- Outcome 2 Apply Vaccinology Principles Across Routine and Special Cohorts
- Outcome 3 Assess and Manage Fever and Imported Infection in the Returned Traveller
- Outcome 4 Address infection-related health needs of migrants

#### Training Goal 8 – Specialist Escalation & Public Health Interface

- Outcome 1 Recognise unusual or high-consequence infections
- Outcome 2 Escalate for specialist advice and tertiary care
- Outcome 3 Interface with public health and support communicable disease control

#### Training Goal 9 – Laboratory Medicine & Diagnostic Interpretation

- Outcome 1 Interpret laboratory investigations in clinical context
- Outcome 2 Apply specialised and molecular diagnostics
- Outcome 3 Apply testing stewardship and communicate laboratory findings

## Training Goal 1 – Clinical Assessment & Management of Infectious Disease

By the end of this Fellowship, the International Fellow is expected to demonstrate advanced capability in the assessment, investigation, diagnosis, and management of patients with suspected or confirmed infectious disease, including community-acquired and cross-specialty infections. This includes clinical assessment, investigation and procedural practice, diagnostic formulation and revision, treatment initiation, infectious diseases consultation, and contribution to the management of inpatient and outpatient infectious diseases services.

### OUTCOME 1 ASSESS AND INVESTIGATE SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED INFECTION

Assess patients with suspected or confirmed infection, adapting the approach where communication, cognitive, physical, language, psychological, or social factors affect clinical interaction. Select and perform appropriate tests and procedures, including lumbar puncture where indicated, and interpret relevant diagnostic information, including Gram stain, malaria film, and rapid diagnostic tests.

### OUTCOME 2 FORMULATE A DIAGNOSIS AND INITIATE TREATMENT FOR COMMUNITY-ACQUIRED INFECTION

Formulate and revise specific or differential diagnoses using evolving clinical, laboratory, and epidemiological information. Distinguish infectious from non-infectious presentations, consider patient concerns in diagnostic reasoning, and initiate evidence-based treatment for community-acquired infections, including:

- Meningitis and encephalitis
- Complicated skin and soft tissue infection
- Endocarditis
- Sexually transmitted infection

### OUTCOME 3 MANAGE CROSS-SPECIALTY INFECTIONS AND OUTPATIENT CARE

Manage infections spanning specialty boundaries, including tuberculosis and hepatitis B and C, recognising their clinical, microbiological, public health, and service implications. Apply knowledge of OPAT, outpatient infection pathways, and home antibiotic services to support triage, monitoring, escalation, and continuity of care.

### OUTCOME 4 CONTRIBUTE TO INFECTIOUS DISEASES CONSULTATION AND SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

Contribute to the organisation and development of infectious diseases services, recognising the complementary roles of related infection disciplines. Provide consultation across inpatient and outpatient settings, working collaboratively with the multidisciplinary team.

## Training Goal 2 – Management of the Immunocompromised Patient

By the end of this Fellowship, the International Fellow is expected to demonstrate advanced capability in the management of immunocompromised patients, including those with HIV/AIDS. This includes recognising clinical and laboratory manifestations of infection and immunodeficiency, assessing the level of immunodeficiency and infection risk, forming a specific or differential diagnosis, initiating and monitoring appropriate treatment, and supporting continuity of care through serious physical illness, deterioration, and end-of-life care where relevant.

### OUTCOME 1 ASSESS AND MANAGE INFECTION IN THE IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOST

Assess and manage infection in immunocompromised patients – evaluating immunodeficiency level, associated infection risk, risk of concurrent infection, altered clinical presentations, and relevant clinical and laboratory manifestations. Apply knowledge of the predictive value, cost, safety, resource implications, and limitations of investigations to specific patient cohorts, including:

- Transplant patients
- Oncology and haematology patients
- Patients receiving biological modifiers

### OUTCOME 2 MANAGE HIV/AIDS, CO-INFECTION, AND ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY

Manage HIV/AIDS across relevant clinical contexts, including prevention of mother-to-child transmission, co-infection with HBV, HCV, syphilis, or tuberculosis, and antiretroviral treatment in children and adolescents. Initiate, monitor, and adjust antiretroviral therapy using knowledge of drug mechanisms, pharmacokinetics, resistance, cross-resistance, side effects, and current evidence-based guidelines.

### OUTCOME 3 PROVIDE CONTINUITY, SUPPORTIVE, AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY CARE

Support continuity of care for immunocompromised patients through serious illness, deterioration, and end-of-life care where relevant, working with MDT colleagues, patient support services, and families through clear, sensitive communication about risk activity, treatment adherence, pain, psychological support, and patient concerns.

### OUTCOME 4 APPLY VIRAL DIAGNOSTICS

Apply currently used viral diagnostic techniques, including nucleic acid amplification tests, with regard to clinical indication, patient preferences, and rational resource use. Interpret HBV and HIV resistance profiles and communicate diagnostic findings effectively.

### Training Goal 3 – Care of the Child with Primary Immunodeficiency

By the end of this Fellowship, the International Fellow is expected to demonstrate capability in recognising, investigating, and supporting the early management of children with suspected or confirmed primary immunodeficiency. This includes immunodeficiency-focused history-taking, recognition of sentinel clinical features, appropriate investigation, interpretation of immune function and genetic testing, and awareness of associated allergic, autoimmune, inflammatory, immunodysregulatory, and secondary immunodeficiency conditions.

#### OUTCOME 1 RECOGNISE AND INVESTIGATE PRIMARY IMMUNODEFICIENCY

Recognise clinical features suggestive of primary immunodeficiency in children through immunodeficiency-focused assessment, sentinel examination findings, and extended clinical and family history. Select and interpret appropriate investigations, including antibody assays, complement, phagocytic and T-cell tests, and molecular genetic testing.

#### OUTCOME 2 INITIATE MANAGEMENT OF PRIMARY IMMUNODEFICIENCY

Support early management of children with primary immunodeficiency, including antimicrobial therapy, antimicrobial prophylaxis, and intravenous or subcutaneous immunoglobulin treatment. Apply relevant management principles for associated allergic, autoimmune, inflammatory, and immunodysregulatory conditions, including: haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis/macrophage activation syndrome, hereditary angioedema and its complications, and acute anaphylaxis.

#### OUTCOME 3 RECOGNISE SECONDARY IMMUNODEFICIENCY

Recognise secondary immunodeficiencies induced by infection, other disease, or drug treatment, distinguishing these from primary immunodeficiency and adapting investigation and early management accordingly.

## Training Goal 4 – Hospital-Acquired Infection & Infection Control

By the end of this Fellowship, the International Fellow is expected to demonstrate capability in recognising, managing, and contributing to the control of hospital-acquired infection within a specialist infectious diseases setting. This includes managing complex nosocomial infections in relevant patient groups, including postoperative and intensive care patients, and contributing to infection prevention and surveillance, and antimicrobial resistance awareness.

### OUTCOME 1 MANAGE HOSPITAL-ACQUIRED INFECTION

Recognise and manage complex nosocomial infection in postoperative and intensive care patients, identifying relevant symptom patterns and physical signs. Use rational laboratory investigation, appropriate examination, and organised clinical reasoning to develop management plans while maintaining patient dignity, confidentiality, consent where relevant, and sensitive communication with patients, relatives, and carers.

### OUTCOME 2 CONTRIBUTE TO INFECTION CONTROL SYSTEMS

Apply surveillance, infection prevention, and infection control principles. Identify patient cohort-specific risk factors, recognise mechanisms through which antimicrobial-resistant infections are acquired, and work effectively with clinical teams, management, and the public where relevant to support infection control policies and practices.

## Training Goal 5 – Antimicrobial Stewardship

By the end of this Fellowship, the International Fellow is expected to demonstrate capability in promoting, improving, leading, and measuring appropriate antimicrobial use. This includes applying principles of antimicrobial prescribing, differentiating colonisation from infection, interpreting microbiology and resistance data, managing multidrug-resistant infection, understanding new antimicrobial agents, and contributing to multidisciplinary antimicrobial stewardship activity.

### OUTCOME 1 APPLY PRINCIPLES OF ANTIMICROBIAL PRESCRIBING

Apply antimicrobial prescribing principles, including spectrum of activity, mode of action, pharmacology, toxicity, resistance patterns, new antimicrobial agents, and the limitations of individual and combination therapies. Interpret microbiology results, resistance data, and guidelines to support safe and proportionate prescribing.

### OUTCOME 2 APPLY PROPHYLACTIC, PRE-EMPTIVE, AND THERAPEUTIC PRESCRIBING

Apply prophylactic, pre-emptive, and therapeutic prescribing principles – including pre-operative prophylaxis and prescribing for patients with allergy, comorbidity, resistant organisms, or specific infection risks – across relevant clinical settings. Tailor decisions to local epidemiology, likely pathogens, susceptibility patterns, patient factors, and relative costs, explaining prophylaxis decisions as required.

### OUTCOME 3 CONTRIBUTE TO ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP TEAMS

Contribute to multidisciplinary antimicrobial stewardship activity. Support improved prescribing through case discussion, education, measurement and review of antimicrobial use, and clear messaging to healthcare professionals, patients, and families.

### OUTCOME 4 MANAGE RESISTANCE AND MULTIDRUG-RESISTANT INFECTION

Differentiate colonisation from infection and recognise clinical situations that promote antimicrobial resistance. Apply knowledge of laboratory detection methods, resistance mechanisms, institutional resistance patterns, infection control implications, and available antimicrobial options to manage multidrug-resistant infection.

## Training Goal 6 – Paediatric & Neonatal Infection

By the end of this Fellowship, the International Fellow is expected to demonstrate capability in recognising, investigating, and managing infection in paediatric and neonatal intensive care settings. This includes infection and colonisation with multidrug-resistant organisms, sepsis, disseminated intravascular coagulation, congenital infection, neonatal infection, and antimicrobial stewardship in critically ill infants and children.

### OUTCOME 1 MANAGE INFECTION IN PICU AND NICU SETTINGS

Recognise and manage common infection problems and infection or colonisation with multidrug-resistant organisms in PICU and NICU settings, applying knowledge of sepsis pathophysiology, disseminated intravascular coagulation, infection outcomes, evidence-based infection management, and antimicrobial stewardship.

### OUTCOME 2 DIAGNOSE AND MANAGE CONGENITAL AND NEONATAL INFECTION

Diagnose, investigate, and manage congenital and neonatal infections in premature and term infants, including CMV, HSV, toxoplasmosis, syphilis, common bacterial problems, and risk assessment for bacterial, fungal, and viral infection. Apply neonatal sepsis assessment, evidence-based infection management, and antimicrobial stewardship principles to support safe care in NICU settings, communicating clearly with carers and relatives.

## **Training Goal 7 – Travel Medicine, Vaccinology, Imported Infections, & Inclusion Health**

By the end of this Fellowship, the International Fellow is expected to demonstrate capability in travel medicine, vaccinology, assessment of fever in the returned traveller, and diagnosis and management of imported infections, including malaria. This includes providing pre-travel advice, applying routine and travel vaccination principles, assessing individual risk, advising on malaria prevention, recognising the limitations of specialised diagnostic tests, and recognising infection-related health needs among migrants.

### **OUTCOME 1 PROVIDE PRE-TRAVEL HEALTH ADVICE AND MALARIA PREVENTION**

Conduct individualised pre-travel risk assessment, integrating medical, vaccination, and travel history, and provide written and verbal health advice. Administer or arrange appropriate immunisations and antimalarial prophylaxis as appropriate, with attention to special traveller cohorts, including older and immunocompromised travellers.

### **OUTCOME 2 APPLY VACCINOLOGY PRINCIPLES ACROSS ROUTINE AND SPECIAL COHORTS**

Apply principles of vaccinology and infectious disease prevention to routine immunisation and vaccination in special patient cohorts, including international travellers. Interpret vaccination histories, assess vaccine hesitancy and relevant risk, and communicate appropriate advice to patients, parents, and clinical teams.

### **OUTCOME 3 ASSESS AND MANAGE FEVER AND IMPORTED INFECTION IN THE RETURNED TRAVELLER**

Assess returned travellers with fever or suspected imported infection. Formulate and revise differential diagnoses, including malaria and other imported infections, and select and interpret relevant investigations, including malaria films, rapid diagnostic tests, and specialised diagnostic tests.

### **OUTCOME 4 ADDRESS INFECTION-RELATED HEALTH NEEDS OF MIGRANTS**

Recognise acute, chronic, imported, and vaccine-preventable infections among migrants, accounting for epidemiological risk, delayed access to the Irish healthcare system, incomplete vaccination histories, population shifts, and social context. Work effectively with relevant support and surveillance systems, using respectful and culturally sensitive communication.

## Training Goal 8 – Specialist Escalation & Public Health Interface

By the end of this Fellowship, the International Fellow is expected to demonstrate capability in recognising infections that require specialist advice, tertiary-level care, or public health involvement. This includes identifying appropriate advice lines, referral pathways, and information sources; recognising personal and service limitations; working with public health and community specialists; and supporting communicable disease and epidemiological control.

### OUTCOME 1 RECOGNISE UNUSUAL OR HIGH-CONSEQUENCE INFECTIONS

Recognise unusual or high-consequence infections that may require specialist advice, tertiary-level care, or urgent public health involvement, drawing on appropriate clinical guidance and information sources.

### OUTCOME 2 ESCALATE FOR SPECIALIST ADVICE AND TERTIARY CARE

Access appropriate advice lines, referral pathways, and tertiary care services when specialist input is required. Demonstrate awareness of personal and service limitations and seek specialist advice when required.

### OUTCOME 3 INTERFACE WITH PUBLIC HEALTH AND SUPPORT COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

Work effectively with public health, community, laboratory, and clinical teams to support communicable disease control. Assess public health risk and engage appropriate communicable disease control systems, personnel, and agencies to support timely epidemiological action across community and imported infection contexts.

## Training Goal 9 – Laboratory Medicine & Diagnostic Interpretation

By the end of this Fellowship, the International Fellow is expected to demonstrate capability in the critical interpretation of microbiological and virological laboratory results and their application to clinical decision-making. This includes understanding the role of the microbiologist and virologist, familiarity with basic microbiological bench work, understanding laboratory reporting processes and constraints, recognising the benefits and limitations of routine and specialised diagnostic tests, applying testing stewardship, and using molecular diagnostics and newer diagnostic technologies appropriately.

### OUTCOME 1 INTERPRET LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS IN CLINICAL CONTEXT

Interpret microbiological and virological investigations in clinical context, drawing on understanding of microbiological techniques, the microbiological basis of disease, the pathological basis of tests, and factors affecting interpretation.

### OUTCOME 2 APPLY SPECIALISED AND MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS

Apply results from routine, specialised, and molecular diagnostic investigations – including antibiograms, nucleic acid amplification tests, and tests available through the Irish Sepsis and Meningitis Reference Laboratory – to inform diagnosis, antimicrobial decision-making, and patient management, drawing on knowledge of antibiotic modes of action, side effects, and interactions.

### OUTCOME 3 APPLY TESTING STEWARDSHIP AND COMMUNICATE LABORATORY FINDINGS

Apply testing stewardship principles to ensure rational, clinically appropriate, and resource-conscious use of microbiological and virological investigations. Work with laboratory staff and communicate findings clearly to colleagues across disciplines.

## COMPLEMENTARY TRAINING & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Training Activities

The International Fellow is expected to participate in different Training Activities in a variety of settings, such as Outpatient Clinics; Ward Rounds; Consultations; Emergencies/Complicated Cases; Grand Rounds; Multidisciplinary Team Meetings; Clinical Audits.

Specific requirements for this ICFP are outlined in the final section of this document ([Summary Table of Expected Experience](#)).

### Educational Activities

The International Fellow will also be invited to attend relevant Paediatric Study Days. In addition, the Fellow may access relevant RCPI educational and training opportunities aligned with the training goals of the Fellowship, including the RCPI Taught Programme.

The RCPI Taught Programme consists of a series of modular elements. Content delivery is a combination of self-paced online material, live virtual tutorials, and in-person workshops, all accessible in one area on the RCPI's virtual learning environment (VLE), RCPI Brightspace.

The live virtual tutorials are delivered by Tutors related to Paediatrics, and they will use specialty-specific examples throughout each tutorial.

International Fellows can be assigned to a tutorial group with the HST Trainees from the Faculty of Paediatrics starting in July.

The assigned supervisor/clinical lead determines whether it is appropriate for the International Fellow to attend the Taught Programme or portions of it. The diagram below illustrates the content covered by the Taught Programme.

**Taught Programme. Core Learning**

## ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES

The progression of the International Fellow throughout the programme is monitored and evaluated, making use of both formative and summative assessments.

| Formative Assessment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Summative Assessment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focuses on continuous feedback and developmental growth.</li> <li>• Includes multiple opportunities for reflection, discussions, and skill evaluations throughout the training period.</li> <li>• Helps identify areas for improvement and supports ongoing learning.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides a final judgment of competency at various stages of training.</li> <li>• Involves formal evaluations and workplace-based assessments.</li> <li>• Used to assess whether the Fellow meets the necessary standards to progress in training or achieve certification (e.g. examination).</li> </ul> |

### WBAs in use at RCPI

Workplace-based assessments (WBAs) refer to those assessments used to evaluate Trainees' daily clinical practices employed in their work setting. These are primarily based on the observation of Trainees' performance by Trainers.

RCPI employs a variety of WBAs with different focuses:

- Observation of clinical practice: this can be evaluated using structured assessments such as via MiniCEX and DOPS.
- Discussion of clinical cases: this can be formally evaluated via Case Based Discussion (CBD) and it is mostly used to assess clinical judgment and decision-making.
- Informal Feedback: this can be gathered by different trainers, colleagues and recorded via the Feedback Opportunity Form available on ePortfolio.
- Mandatory Evaluations: these are bound to specific events or times of the academic year. For these at RCPI, we use the Quarterly Assessment/End of Post Assessment and End of Year Evaluation.

### Recording WBAs on ePortfolio

It is expected that WBAs are logged on an electronic portfolio. Every International Fellow has access to an individual ePortfolio where they must record all their assessments, including WBAs. By recording assessments on this platform, ePortfolio serves both the function to provide an individual record of the assessments and to track International Fellows' progression.

Below is a table of all the assessments available for this ICFP and a brief explanation of each.

| WORKPLACE-BASED ASSESSMENTS                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CBD   Case Based Discussion</b>                    | <p>This assessment is developed in three phases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planning: The International Fellow selects two or more medical records to present to the Trainer who will choose one for the assessment. International Fellow and Trainer identify one or more training goals in the curriculum and specific outcomes related to the case. Then the Trainer prepares the questions for discussion.</li> <li>2. Discussion: Prevalently, based on the chosen case, the Trainer verifies the International Fellow's clinical reasoning and professional judgment, determining the International Fellow's diagnostic, decision-making and management skills.</li> <li>3. Feedback: The Trainer provides constructive feedback to the International Fellow. It is good practice to complete at least one CBD per quarter in each year of training.</li> </ol> |
| <b>DOPS   Direct Observation of Procedural Skills</b> | <p>This assessment is specifically targeted at the evaluation of procedural skills involving patients in a single encounter.</p> <p>In the context of a DOPS, the Trainer evaluates the International Fellow while they are performing a procedure as a part of their clinical routine. This evaluation is assessed by completing a form with pre-set criteria, then followed by direct feedback.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>MiniCEX   Mini Clinical Examination Exercise</b>   | <p>The Trainer is required to observe and assess the interaction between the International Fellow and a patient. This assessment is developed in three phases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The International Fellow is expected to conduct a history taking and/or a physical examination of the patient within a standard timeframe (15 minutes).</li> <li>2. The International Fellow is then expected to suggest a diagnosis and management plan for the patient based on the history/examination.</li> <li>3. The Trainer assesses the overall International Fellow's performance by using the structured ePortfolio form and provides constructive feedback.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Feedback Opportunity</b>                           | <p>Designed to record as much feedback as possible. It is based on observation of the International Fellows in any clinical and/or non-clinical task. Feedback can be provided by anyone observing the International Fellow (peer, other supervisors, healthcare staff, juniors). It is possible to turn the feedback into an assessment (CDB, DOPS or MiniCEX)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| MANDATORY EVALUATIONS                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>QA   Quarterly Assessment</b>                      | <p>As the name suggests, the Quarterly Assessment recurs four times in the academic year, once every academic quarter (every three months).</p> <p>It frequently happens that a Quarterly Assessment coincides with the end of a post, in which case the Quarterly Assessment will be substituted by completing an End of Post Assessment. In this sense the two Assessments are interchangeable, and they can be completed using the same form on ePortfolio.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>EOPA   End of Post Assessment</b>                  | <p>However, if the International Fellow will remain in the same post at the end of the quarter, it will be necessary to complete a Quarterly Assessment. Similarly, if the end of a post does not coincide with the end of a quarter, it will be necessary to complete an End of Post Assessment to assess the end of a post.</p> <p>This means that for every specialty and level of training, a minimum of four Quarterly Assessment and/or End of Post Assessment will be completed in an academic year as a mandatory requirement.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>EOYE   End of Year Evaluation</b>                  | <p>The End of Year Evaluation occurs once a year and involves the attendance of an evaluation panel composed of the National Specialty Directors (NSDs); the Specialty Coordinator attends too, to keep records of and facilitate the meeting. The assigned Trainer is not supposed to attend this meeting unless there is a valid reason to do so. These meetings are scheduled by the respective Specialty Coordinators and happen sometime before the end of the academic year (between April and June).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

## SUMMARY TABLE OF EXPECTED EXPERIENCE

This table provides a blueprint of all activities included in this ICFP. It summarises the types and frequencies of expected experiences to be completed and recorded in the ePortfolio.

| Experience Type                                                                                                              | Required/Desirable | Minimum Requirement |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Training Plan</b>                                                                                                         |                    |                     |
| <b>Weekly Timetable</b> (Sample Weekly Timetable for Post/Clinical Attachment)                                               | Required           | 1                   |
| <b>Personal Goals Plan</b> (Copy of agreed Training Plan for your current training year signed by both Trainee & Trainer)    | Required           | 1                   |
| <b>Personal Goals Form</b>                                                                                                   | Required           | 1                   |
| <b>Training Activities</b>                                                                                                   |                    |                     |
| <b>Outpatient Clinics</b>                                                                                                    |                    |                     |
| ID Clinics                                                                                                                   | Required           | 10                  |
| Immunology Clinics                                                                                                           | Required           | 10                  |
| <b>Ward Rounds/Consultations</b>                                                                                             |                    |                     |
| ID/Microbiology Rounds                                                                                                       | Required           | 40                  |
| <b>Emergencies/Complicated Cases</b> (Diagnosis of nature of problem and its presentation, emergency case for investigation) | Required           | 1                   |
| <b>Additional/Special Experience Gained</b>                                                                                  | Desirable          | 1                   |
| <b>Laboratory Experience</b>                                                                                                 | Required           | 1                   |
| <b>Relatively Unusual Cases</b>                                                                                              | Required           | 1                   |
| <b>Chronic Cases/Long term care</b>                                                                                          | Required           | 1                   |
| <b>ICU/CCU Cases</b>                                                                                                         | Required           | 1                   |
| <b>Educational Activities</b>                                                                                                |                    |                     |
| <b>Courses</b>                                                                                                               |                    |                     |
| APLS                                                                                                                         | Required           | 1                   |
| PENTA HIV training course                                                                                                    | Desirable          | 1                   |
| European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases (The Oxford Course)                                                      | Desirable          | 1                   |
| Ethics for Paediatrics RCPI Course                                                                                           | Required           | 1                   |
| Mastering Communication RCPI Course                                                                                          | Required           | 1                   |
| Safe Prescribing for Paediatrics RCPI Course                                                                                 | Required           | 1                   |
| HST Leadership in Clinical Practice RCPI Course                                                                              | Desirable          | 1                   |
| Wellness Matters RCPI Course                                                                                                 | Desirable          | 1                   |
| <b>Study Days</b>                                                                                                            | Required           | 6                   |
| <b>National/International meetings (minimum attend 1 per year)</b>                                                           |                    |                     |
| ESPID, IPA, ESID/UKPIN                                                                                                       | Required           | 1                   |

| Experience Type                                                                                          | Required/Desirable | Minimum Requirement |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Training Plan</b>                                                                                     |                    |                     |
| <b>In-house activities</b>                                                                               |                    |                     |
| Immunology Case Rounds                                                                                   | Required           | 4                   |
| PMTCT meetings                                                                                           | Required           | 5                   |
| ARV script meetings                                                                                      | Required           | 4                   |
| Morbidity and Mortality Review Meetings                                                                  | Required           | 4                   |
| Grand Rounds                                                                                             | Required           | 10                  |
| Journal Clubs                                                                                            | Required           | 20                  |
| MTD meetings                                                                                             | Required           | 20                  |
| Radiology Conferences                                                                                    | Required           | 10                  |
| Lecture                                                                                                  | Required           | 1                   |
| Seminar                                                                                                  | Required           | 1                   |
| <b>Formal Teaching Activity</b> (minimum 1 formal teaching session per month from the categories below:) | Required           | 10                  |
| Lecture                                                                                                  |                    |                     |
| Tutorial                                                                                                 |                    |                     |
| Bedside Teaching                                                                                         |                    |                     |
| <b>Research</b>                                                                                          | Desirable          | 1                   |
| <b>Audit or Quality Improvement activities and Reporting</b> (1 per year)                                | Required           | 1                   |
| <b>Publications</b>                                                                                      | Desirable          | 1                   |
| <b>Presentations</b>                                                                                     | Desirable          | 1                   |
| <b>Committee Attendance</b>                                                                              | Desirable          | 1                   |
| Infection Control Committee                                                                              | Desirable          |                     |
| Antimicrobial stewardship meetings                                                                       |                    | 1                   |
| <b>Assessments</b>                                                                                       |                    |                     |
| <b>CBD</b>                                                                                               | Required           | 4                   |
| <b>Mini-CEX</b> (At least two Mini-CEX assessments)                                                      | Required           | 2                   |
| <b>Quarterly Assessments</b>                                                                             | Required           | 4                   |
| <b>End-of-Post/End-of-Year Assessments</b>                                                               | Required           | 1                   |