

Rough Guide to Implementation Renal Medicine Curriculum Guidance for training programme directors, supervisors and trainees

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Introduction

This guide for Renal Medicine is to help training programme directors (TPDs), supervisors, trainees and others with the practicalities of implementing the new curriculum. It is intended to supplement rather than replace the curriculum document itself. The curriculum, ARCP decision aid and this guide are available on the JRCPTB website.

The Rough Guide has been put together by members of the Renal Medicine SAC with additional help from many external stakeholders especially trainees. It is intended to be a 'living document' and we value feedback via curriculum@jrcptb.org.uk.

What is different about the 2022 Renal Medicine curriculum?

Background

The last renal curriculum was first published in 2007 with minor revisions in 2010. This curriculum adopted a competency based approach to training and assessment in which a large number of individual competencies were specified, and trainees were required to demonstrate evidence of competence in each. Training was complete when all competencies were achieved. Assessment of higher-level outcomes were not prioritised, and this came to be regarded as a weakness of this curriculum. Furthermore, the exhaustive assessment of individual competencies seemed to encourage a 'box ticking' approach to training.

The GMC have now directed a welcome move away from this competency based model to an outcomes based methodology that specifies and assesses higher level capabilities. This model underpins the new 2022 renal curriculum. The new curriculum has a relatively small number of 'capabilities in practice' (CIPs) which are based on the concept of entrustable professional activities (EPAs). In practice, the 2022 renal curriculum will be found to be quite different from the 2010 curriculum with an emphasis on outcomes and holistic assessment, and less focus on individual competencies. It is anticipated that this will improve the training experience and promote high level professional competence in trainees.

The GMC has also mandated that all postgraduate curricula must incorporate the essential generic capabilities required by all doctors as defined in the [Generic Professional Capabilities \(GPC\) framework](#).

Duration of training

Trainees in renal medicine higher specialty training will dual accredit with internal medicine (IM) usually in four years of full-time training. There will be options for those trainees who demonstrate exceptionally rapid development and acquisition of capabilities to complete training sooner than the indicative time. There may also be trainees who develop more slowly and will require an extension of training as indicated in the Reference Guide for

Postgraduate Specialty Training in the UK (The Gold Guide). Single accreditation in Renal Medicine will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

The Renal Medicine curriculum

The purpose of the curriculum is to produce doctors with the generic professional and specialty specific capabilities required to practice in Renal Medicine. Trainees gaining a CCT in Renal Medicine will be expected to be competent in the management of chronic kidney disease, end-stage renal disease, acute kidney injury and in the delivery of specialised renal services. Trainees will be capable of working in a complex multi-disciplinary environment and will be trained to providing support to acute medical and surgical specialities as well as to primary care in the management of patients with kidney disease.

Renal trainees will have training across all IM capabilities in practice (CiPs) and, as such, will have flexibility to work within acute internal medicine teams. Renal trainees will also be trained to deliver speciality specific emergency medicine including the diagnosis and management of acute kidney injury and the provision of emergency dialysis.

Doctors in training will learn in a variety of settings using a range of methods, including workplace-based experiential learning, formal postgraduate teaching and simulation-based education.

By the end of their final year of training, the trainee will receive a dual CCT in Renal Medicine and Internal Medicine.

Capabilities in Practice (CiPs)

The **generic CiPs** cover the universal requirements of all specialties as described in the GPC framework. The generic CiPs are common across all physician specialties. Assessment of the generic CiPs will be underpinned by the GPC descriptors. Satisfactory sign off will indicate that there are no concerns.

The **clinical CiPs** describe the capabilities required for Internal Medicine. The **specialty CiPs** describe the professional tasks or work within the scope of Renal Medicine.

Each CiP has a set of descriptors associated with that activity or task. Descriptors are intended to help trainees and trainers recognise the minimum level of knowledge, skills and attitudes which should be demonstrated for an entrustment decision to be made.

By the completion of training and award of CCT, the doctor must demonstrate that they are capable of unsupervised practice (level 4) in all clinical and specialty CiPs.

Capabilities in practice (CiPs)

Generic CiPs

1. Able to successfully function within NHS organisational and management systems
2. Able to deal with ethical and legal issues related to clinical practice
3. Communicates effectively and is able to share decision making, while maintaining appropriate situational awareness, professional behaviour and professional judgement
4. Is focussed on patient safety and delivers effective quality improvement in patient care
5. Carrying out research and managing data appropriately
6. Acting as a clinical teacher and clinical supervisor to be assessed by DOPS

Internal Medicine Clinical CiPs

1. Managing an acute unselected take
2. Managing the acute care of patients within a medical specialty service
3. Providing continuity of care to medical inpatients, including management of comorbidities and cognitive impairment
4. Managing patients in an outpatient clinic, ambulatory or community setting, including management of long term conditions
5. Managing medical problems inpatients in other specialties and special cases
6. Managing a multi-disciplinary team including effective discharge planning
7. Delivering effective resuscitation and managing the acutely deteriorating patient
8. Managing end of life and applying palliative care skills

Specialty CiPs

1. Running a renal ward
2. Managing a haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis programme
3. Running an acute renal referral service
4. Managing patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) stage 1 – 5
5. Understanding of subspecialty clinical services
6. Managing renal transplant patients

Please see the curriculum for detail on each specialty CiP.

Evidence of capability

The curriculum describes the evidence that can be used by the educational supervisor to make a judgement of the trainee's capability (please see the CiPs tables and the assessment blueprint). The educational supervisor will make a holistic judgement based on the evidence provided, particularly the feedback from clinical supervisors and the multidisciplinary team. The list of evidence for each CiP is not exhaustive and other evidence may be equally valid.

Presentations and Conditions

The curriculum provides guidance on the themes which form the clinical context in which the capabilities are demonstrated. The content of learning lists common or serious conditions that trainees will be expected to know about by completion of training, this list is not exhaustive. There is no requirement for trainees to be signed off for individual items.

Practical Procedures

The curriculum and ARCP decision aid list the practical procedures required and the minimum level of competency. Trainees in Renal Medicine are expected to be proficient in the insertion of temporary haemodialysis catheters (femoral or jugular), to facilitate acute or urgent haemodialysis, by the end of year one (ST4).

Many trainees will also choose to become proficient in the placement of tunnelled dialysis catheters, native and transplant renal biopsies and the insertion of peritoneal dialysis catheters. These procedures are recommended but not mandated in the renal curriculum. Local Education Providers that offer training in these procedures will need to put in place mechanisms to provide training and assure competence for independent practice.

Trainees should receive training in procedural skills in a skills lab if required.

Once a trainee is competent to perform a procedure unsupervised, as evidenced by summative direct observation of procedural skills (DOPS), there is no requirement for further assessment. It is a matter of professional insight and probity that a trainee should maintain their competency by carrying out the procedure when the opportunity arises. If a trainee has not performed a particular procedure for some time and no longer feels confident or competent to carry it out, then they should seek further training with appropriate supervision. Trainers should have ongoing conversations with trainees about procedural competence and this should be documented.

Assessment: What is required from trainees and trainers?

Introduction

Decisions about a trainee's competence progression will be based on an assessment of how they are achieving their CiPs. For the generic CiPs it will be a straightforward statement as to whether they are operating at, above, or below level expected for the current year of training. For the IM clinical and specialty CiPs there will be a judgement made at what level of supervision they require (i.e. unsupervised or with direct or indirect supervision). For each of these CiPs there is a level that is to be achieved at the end of each year in order for a standard outcome to be achieved at the Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP). The levels expected are given in the grid below and in the ARCP decision aid.

What the trainee needs to do

There is no requirement for a specific number of supervised learning events (SLEs) or workplace based assessments (WPBAs). They should be used as supportive evidence to help trainers complete the Multiple Consultant Report (MCR) and Education Supervisors Report (ESR). SLEs and formative DOPS are not pass/fail summative assessments but should be seen by both trainer and trainee as learning opportunities for a trainee to have one to one teaching and receive helpful and supportive feedback from an experienced senior doctor. Trainees should be seeking to have SLEs performed as often as practical. They also must continue to attend and document their teaching sessions and must continue to reflect (and record that reflection) on teaching sessions, clinical incidents and any other situations that would aid their professional development.

Each trainee must ensure that they have acquired multi-source feedback (MSF) on their performance each year and that this feedback has been discussed with their Educational Supervisor (ES) and prompted appropriate reflection. They also need to ensure that they have received a minimum of 4 reports from consultants who are familiar with their work and who will contribute to the Multiple Consultant Report (MCR). Each consultant contributing to the MCR will give an advisory statement about the level at which they assess the trainee to be functioning for each clinical CiP.

As the ARCP approaches, trainees need to arrange to see their ES to facilitate preparation of the ESR. They will have to self-assess the level at which they feel they are operating at for each CiP. In an analogous fashion to the MSF, this self- assessment allows the ES to see if the trainee's views are in accord with those of the trainers and will give an idea of the trainee's level of insight.

Interaction between trainer and trainee

Regular interaction between trainees and their trainers is critical to the trainee's development and progress through the programme. Trainees will need to engage with their clinical and educational supervisors.

At the beginning of the academic year there should be a meeting with the ES to map out a training plan for the year. This should include;

- how to meet the training requirements of the programme, addressing each CiP separately
- a plan for taking the European Specialty Examination in Nephrology (ESENeph)
- a discussion about what resources are available to help with the programme
- develop a set of SMART Personal Development Plans (PDPs) for the training year
- a plan for using study leave
- use of the various assessment/development tools

The trainee should also meet with the clinical supervisor (CS) to discuss the opportunities in the current placement including;

- develop a PDP including SMART objectives for the placement

- access to clinics and how to meet the learning objectives
- expectations for renal on-call and out of hours working
- expectations for inpatient experience
- expectations to gain experience in end-of-life care

Depending on local arrangements there should be regular meetings (we recommend approximately one hour most weeks) for personalised, professional development discussions which will include;

- writing and updating the PDP
- reviewing reflections and SLEs
- reviewing MCR and other feedback
- discussing leadership development
- discussing the trainee's development as a physician and career goals
- discussing things that went well or things that went not so well

Self-assessment

Trainees are required to undertake a self-assessment of their engagement with the curriculum and in particular the CiPs. This is not a 'one-off' event but should be a continuous process from induction to the completion of the programme and is particularly important to have been updated ahead of the writing of the ES report and subsequent ARCP. Self-assessment for each of the CiPs should be recorded against the curriculum on the trainee's ePortfolio account.

The purpose of asking trainees to undertake this activity is:

- To guide trainees in completing what is required of them by the curriculum and helping to maintain focus of their own development. To initiate the process it is important that the induction meeting with a trainee's ES reviews how the trainee will use the opportunities of the coming academic year to best advantage in meeting the needs of the programme. It will allow them to reflect on how to tailor development to their own needs, over-and-above the strict requirements laid out in the curriculum
- To guide the ES and the ARCP panel as to how the trainee considers they have demonstrated the requirements of the curriculum as set out in the Decision Aid and where this evidence may be found in the trainee's portfolio. This will help the ARCP panel make a more informed judgement as to the trainee's progress and reduce the issuing of outcome 5s as a result of evidence not being available or found by the panel

What the Educational Supervisor (ES) needs to do

The educational supervisor and trainee should meet beforehand to plan what evidence will need to be obtained. This can be used by the ES to write an important and substantial ES report (ESR).

The ESR will be the central piece of evidence considered by the ARCP Panel when assessing whether the trainee has attained the required standard as set out in the Decision Aid. As

such, both time and planning will need to be given to writing it; this process will need to start at the beginning of the training year.

Educational Supervisor Report (ESR)

The ESR should be written ahead of the ARCP and discussed between the supervisor and the trainee before the ARCP, with any aspects likely to result in a non-standard outcome at ARCP made clear. This conversation should be documented. The report documents the entrustment decisions made by the supervisor for all the CiPs set out in the curriculum. The decisions should be based on evidence gathered across the training year as planned at the Induction Meeting with the trainee and modified through subsequent, regular, professional development meetings. The evidence should be gathered from several sources as appropriate for the particular CiP.

In completing the ESR, assessments are made for each **generic CiP** using the following anchor statements:

Below expectations for this year of training; may not meet the requirements for critical progression point
Meeting expectations for this year of training; expected to progress to next stage of training
Above expectations for this year of training; expected to progress to next stage of training

Comments must be made, as a minimum, for any rating of below expectation. It is good practice to narrate all decisions. The narration should include;

- Source of the evidence and its context, outlining contradicting evidence if appropriate
- Examples (of statements)
- Direction for future development/improvement

For the **IM clinical** and **specialty CiPs**, the ES makes a judgement using the levels of entrustment in the table below.

Level 1: Entrusted to observe only – no provision of clinical care
Level 2: Entrusted to act with direct supervision: The trainee may provide clinical care, but the supervising physician is physically within the hospital or other site of patient care and is immediately available if required to provide direct bedside supervision
Level 3: Entrusted to act with indirect supervision: The trainee may provide clinical care when the supervising physician is not physically present within the hospital or other site of patient care, but is available by means of telephone and/or electronic media to provide advice, and can attend at the bedside if required to provide direct supervision
Level 4: Entrusted to act unsupervised

Only the ES makes entrustment decisions. Detailed comments must be given to support entrustment decisions that are below the level expected. As above, it is good practice to provide a narrative for all ratings given.

Important Points

- Plan the evidence strategy from the beginning of the training year
- Write the report in good time ahead of the ARCP
- Discuss the ESR with the trainee before the ARCP
- Give specific, examples and directive narration for each entrustment decision

Types of Evidence

Local Faculty Groups (LFG)

This type of group has been recommended in training previously but is not universally implemented. If available this should be a group of senior clinicians (medical and non-medical) who get together to discuss trainees' progress. The purpose is not only to make an assessment of a trainee but to determine and plan on-going training. It is recommended again as an optimal way of providing information about trainees' progress.

The LFG set-up will depend on the circumstances of the organisation. In smaller units the LFG make include all the physicians; while in larger units there may be several LFGs, each in a different department. In all circumstances, as a minimum, an LFG must be able to consider, direct and report on the performance of trainees in the acute medicine/on-call setting.

The LFG should meet regularly to consider the progress of each trainee and identify training needs, putting in place direction as to how these needs are to be met. This should be documented and communicated to trainee's Educational Supervisor and hence to the trainee. A mechanism for this to happen should be established.

Multi-Source Feedback (MSF)

The MSF provides feedback on the trainee that covers areas such as communication and team working. It closely aligns to the Generic CiPs. Feedback should be discussed with the trainee. If a repeat MSF is required it should be undertaken in the subsequent placement.

Multiple Consultant Report (MCR)

The MCR captures the views of consultant (and other senior staff) based on observation of a trainee's performance in practice. The MCR feedback gives valuable insight into how well the trainee is performing, highlighting areas of excellence and areas of support required.

The **minimum** number of MCRs considered necessary is 4. The MCRs will make up a significant part of the evidence for the ESR

Consultant supervisors completing the MCR will use the global anchor statements [meets, below or above expectations] to give feedback on areas of clinical practice. If it is not possible for an individual to give a rating for one or more area they should record 'not observed'. Comments must be made, as a minimum, for any rating of below expectation. It is good practice to narrate all decisions. The narration should include:

- Source of the evidence and its context, outlining contradicting evidence if appropriate
- Examples (of statements)
- Direction for future development/improvement

Supervised Learning Events

Trainees are encouraged to undertake supervised learning events (SLEs) to inform the ESR. For Renal Medicine there is no fixed minimum, however SLEs should be used as evidence of engagement of CiPs and supervisors may request additional SLEs if concerns are identified. SLEs should be undertaken throughout the training year by a range of assessors. Structured feedback should be given to aid the trainee's personal development and reflected on by the trainee.

Acute Care Assessment Tool (ACAT)

The ACAT is used to provide feedback on a trainee's performance when undertaking acute care, particularly the acute medical take. Its main focus is on multi- tasking, prioritisation and organisational skills. It should not be used to produce a "multiple Case Based Discussion". Each ACAT should cover the care of a minimum of five patients.

Case based Discussion (CbD)

This tool is designed to provide feedback on discussions around elements of the care of a particular patient. This can include elements of the particular case and the general management of the condition. It is a good vehicle to discuss management decisions.

Mini-Clinical Evaluation (mini-CEX)

This tool is designed to allow feedback on the directly observed management of a patient and can focus on the whole case or particular aspects.

Workplace-Based Assessments

Direct Observation of Procedural Skill (DOPS)

This tool is designed to give feedback and assessment for trainees on how they have undertaken a procedural skill. This may be in a simulated or real environment. Formative DOPS may be undertaken as many times as the trainee and supervisor feel is necessary. A trainee can be signed off as able to perform a procedure unsupervised using the summative DOPS.

Teaching Observation (TO)

Renal Medicine trainees are expected to show engagement with teaching throughout their training ideally to a range of health care workers including doctors and nurses. At least one TO should be complete by the end of year 3 (ST6). The TO form is designed to provide structured, formative feedback to trainees on their competences at teaching. The TO form can be based on any instance of formalised teaching by the trainee which has been observed by the assessor. The process should be trainee-led (identifying appropriate teaching sessions and assessors).

Quality Improvement Project Assessment Tool (QIPAT)

Renal Medicine trainees are expected to show participation in at least one quality improvement project in year 1 (ST4) with the aim of completing the project with at least a 'satisfactory' QIPAT by the end of year 3 (ST6). The QIPAT is designed to assess a trainee's competence in completing a quality improvement project. The QIPAT can be based on a review of quality improvement documentation or on a presentation of the quality improvement project at a meeting (local or national). If possible, the trainee should be assessed on the quality improvement project by more than one assessor.

Guidance on how to assess QI skills and behaviours has been developed by the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges and is available via [this link](#).

Examination

Renal Medicine trainees are required to pass the European Specialty Examination in Nephrology (ESENeph) by completion of training to be awarded the CCT. It is recommended trainees complete the exam in year 2/3 (ST5/6). Information is available on the MRCP(UK) website www.mrcpuk.org.

Reflection

Undertaking regular reflection is an important part of trainee development towards becoming a self-directed professional learner. Through reflection a trainee should develop SMART learning objectives related to the situation discussed. These should be subsequently incorporated into their PDP. Reflections are also useful to develop 'self-knowledge' to help trainees deal with challenging situations.

It is important to reflect on situations that went well in addition to those that went not so well. Trainees should be encouraged to reflect on their learning opportunities and not just clinical events

Suggested evidence for each CiP

The suggested evidence to inform entrustment decisions is listed for each CiP in the curriculum and ePortfolio. However, it is critical that trainers appreciate that trainees do not need to present every piece of evidence listed and the list is not exhaustive and other evidence may be equally valid.

Induction Meeting with ES: Planning the training year

Writing the ESR essentially starts with the induction meeting with the trainee at which the training year should be planned. The induction meeting between the ES and the trainee is pivotal to the success of the training year. It is the beginning of the training relationship between the two and needs both preparation and time. The induction meeting should be recorded formally in the trainee's ePortfolio. The meeting should be pre-planned and undertaken in a private setting where both can concentrate on the planning of the training year. This is also a time for ES and trainee to start to get to know each other.

Ahead of the meeting review:

- Review Transfers of Information on the trainee
- Review previous ES, ARCP etc. reports if available
- Agree with the placement CSs how other support meetings will be arranged. Including;
 - Arrangements for LFGs or equivalent
 - Arrangements for professional development meetings

At the meeting the following need to be considered:

- Review the placements for the year
- Review the training year elements of the generic educational work schedule or its equivalent
- Construct the personalised educational work schedule for the year or its equivalent
- Construct the annual PDP and relevant training courses
- Discuss the trainee's career plans and help facilitate these
- Discuss the use of reflection and make an assessment of how the trainee uses reflection and dynamic PDPs
- Discuss the teaching programme
- Discuss procedural simulation
- Discuss procedural skill consolidation
- Discuss arrangements for LTFT training if appropriate
- Plan additional meetings including the professional development meetings and the interaction with the placement CSs
- Planning of SLEs and WPBA
- Arrangements for MSF
- Review the ARCP decision aid
- Arrangements for Interim Review of Competence Progression (IRCP)
- Arrangements for ARCP and the writing and discussion of the ESR
- Pastoral support
- Arrangements for reporting of concerns
- Plan study leave

At the end of the meeting the trainee should have a clear plan for providing the evidence needed by the ES to make the required entrustment decisions.

Important Points

- Prepare for the meeting
- Make sure that knowledge of the curriculum is up-to-date
- Set up a plan for the training year

Induction Meeting with Clinical Supervisor (CS)

The trainee should also have an induction meeting with their placement CS (who may also be their ES). The meeting should be pre-planned and undertaken in a private setting where both can concentrate on the planning of the placement. This is also a time for CS and trainee to start to get to know each other.

Ahead of the meeting review the following should be considered;

- Review Transfers of Information on the trainee
- Review previous ES, ARCP etc. reports if available
- Arrangements for LFGs or equivalent

The following areas will need to be discussed, some of which will reinforce areas already covered by the ES but in the setting of the particular placement:

- Review the training placement elements of the generic educational work schedule or its equivalent
- Construct the personalized educational work schedule for the placement or its equivalent
- Construct the set of placement-level SMART objectives in the PDP
- Discuss the use of reflection and make an assessment of how the trainee uses reflection and dynamic PDPs
- Discuss procedural skill consolidation
- Discuss arrangements for LTFT training if appropriate
- Plan additional meetings including professional development meetings and the interaction with the placement CSs (depending on whether the ES or CS will be undertaking these)
- Arrangements for MSF
- Review the ARCP decision aid
- Pastoral support
- Arrangements for reporting of concerns
- Plan study leave

Professional Development Meetings

Trainers and trainees need to meet regularly across the training year. The GMC recommend an hour per week is made available for this activity. While it is not expected or possible for it

to be an hour every week, the time not used for these meetings can be used to participate in LFG and ARCPs etc.

These meetings are important and should cover the following areas. This list is not exhaustive. Meet away from the clinical area regularly to:

- Discuss cases
- Provide feedback
- Monitor progress of learning objectives
- Discuss reflections
- Provide careers advice
- Monitor and update the trainee's PDP
- Record meeting key discussion points and outcomes using the Educational Meeting form on the ePortfolio
- Record progress against the CiPs by updating the comments in the CiP section of the portfolio (this will make writing the ESR at the end of the year much easier)
- Provide support around other issues that the trainee may be encountering

Transition arrangements for trainees already in programme

The GMC's policy statement on the transition of learners to a new curriculum sets out the requirements for doctors in training who are working towards a CCT to move to the most recent GMC approved curriculum and programme of assessment. The transition should be completed as soon as it is feasibly possible, taking account of patient and trainee safety whilst also balancing the needs of the service. Some cohorts of trainees may experience a greater impact than others and require longer to prepare for the transition. As a guide, the GMC considers two years from the implementation date to be a reasonable transition period for all trainees to have moved to new curricula. Doctors in their final year of training (pro rata for less than full time trainees), or for whom it would not be in the interests of patient safety or impractical to support to move to a new curriculum, will normally remain on the curriculum in place prior to the new approval.

Trainees in ST4-ST6 in August 2022:

- Trainees should transfer to the new curriculum at the earliest opportunity. Wherever possible this should be at the point at which they progress into the next training grade/level. For most trainees this will be August 2022, however for some it may be later if their ARCP is later in the year.
- Educational supervisors should agree individual transition plans with their trainees, with training programme directors providing guidance for this. The educational supervisor and trainee should review the new curriculum learning outcomes - 'capabilities in practice' - and identify any gaps that need to be addressed. This 'gap analysis' will help deaneries to tailor the training programme to ensure the trainee encounters relevant learning experiences. Any additional training time and change to the CCT date should be agreed by the first ARCP.
- A form is available on the ePortfolio to facilitate and record the curriculum transfer and gap analysis discussion.

- Trainees will not be required to re-link or transfer evidence from the previous curriculum and should start using the new curriculum in their ePortfolio account.

Out of Programme

Renal trainees should be encouraged and supported to take a period of 'out of programme' in order to enhance their contribution to the NHS as future consultants. This could be in the form of academic activity with a specific research focus or in the development of broader skills away from clinic medicine. For example, diploma or masters programmes in informatics, genomics, health inequalities and social justice to name a few.

Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP)

Introduction

The ARCP is a procedure for assessing competence annually in all medical trainees across the UK. It is owned by the four Statutory Education Bodies (Health Education England, NHS Education for Scotland, Health Education and Improvement Wales and Northern Ireland Medical & Dental Training Agency) and governed by the regulations in the Gold Guide. The JRCPTB can therefore not alter the way in which an ARCP is run but can provide guidance for trainees and trainers in preparing for it and guide panel members on interpretation of both curricular requirements and the decision aid when determining ARCP outcomes. Although receiving a non-standard ARCP outcome (i.e. anything but an outcome 1 or 6) should not be seen as failure, we know that many trainees are anxious about such an outcome and everything possible should be done to ensure that no trainee inappropriately receives a non-standard outcome.

The ARCP gives the final summative judgement about whether the trainee can progress into the subsequent year of training (or successfully complete training if in the final year). The panel will review the ePortfolio (especially the ES report) in conjunction with the decision aid for the appropriate year. The panel must assure itself that the ES has made the appropriate entrustment decisions for each CiP and that they are evidence based and defensible. The panel must also review the record of trainee experience to ensure that each trainee has completed (or is on track to complete over ensuing years) the various learning experiences mandated in the curriculum.

Renal Medicine training and the ARCP

The change from the tick-box style competencies to the high-level Capabilities in Practice (CiPs) will have a major impact on how trainees are assessed and how they will progress through their ARCPs. It is vital we avoid an increase in trainees failing to achieve a standard ARCP outcome by helping trainees and trainers to prepare for the ARCPs and by stressing to ARCP panels the basis of their assessment. ARCP panel members must ask the question: "Overall, on reviewing the ePortfolio, including the Educational Supervisor report, the Multiple Consultant Reports, the Multi-Source Feedback and (if necessary) other

information such as workplace based assessments, reflection etc, is there evidence to suggest that this trainee is safe and capable of progressing to the next stage of training?"

Relationship with Educational Supervisor (ES)

It is vital that the trainee and the ES develop a close working relationship and meet up as soon as possible after the start of training. At that meeting, the ES should discuss how the various curriculum requirements will be met and how evidence will be recorded to ensure that it can be demonstrated that the Capabilities in Practice have been achieved at the appropriate level. This meeting should also result in the production of a Personal Development Plan (PDP) consisting of a number of SMART objectives that the trainee should seek to achieve during that training year. The trainee should meet up with their ES on a number of other occasions during the training year so that the ES can be reassured that appropriate evidence is being accumulated to facilitate production of a valid ES report towards the end of the year and guide the trainee as to further evidence that might be required.

Clinical supervisor (CS)

The trainee should have a Clinical Supervisor for each attachment and once again the trainee should meet up with the CS at the start of the attachment. Similar discussions should be held with the CS as have been held with the ES and once again, a PDP with SMART objectives should be constructed for each attachment. At the end of the attachment, the CS should be well placed to complete a Multiple Consultant Report (MCR). The CS should also document the progress that the trainee has made towards completing all the objectives of the PDP.

The trainee should provide a MCR from each designated CS as they are best placed to provide such a report but in addition should approach other consultants with whom they have had a significant clinical interaction and ask them also to provide a MCR. Throughout the attachment the trainee should be having SLEs completed by both consultants and more senior trainees. Although there is no fixed minimum number of SLEs, they should be used to support training because

- Although they are formative, not summative assessments, they do provide additional evidence to show that a trainee is acquiring clinical (and generic) capabilities
- They may give the trainee the opportunity to have additional one to one clinical teaching from a senior colleague
- They allow the excuse for trainees to receive targeted and constructive feedback from a senior colleague.

Completing reports

When completing reports, all consultants should do more than just tick a box and make some generic comment such as "good trainee". It is important that they make meaningful comments about why they have assigned that particular level of performance/behaviour to

that particular trainee. In doing this, the descriptors assigned to each CiP should be especially useful as an *aide-memoire*. They should specifically not be used as a tick list that requires a comment for each descriptor but should just allow the senior doctor completing the report to reflect on what comments would be helpful to the ES for completion of their report and to the ARCP panel in determining whether the trainee can progress to the next year of training. Constructive comments are also of course valued by the trainee. It is very helpful if the trainee can have constructive comments if they are progressing along the “normal” trajectory and especially if they are exceeding expectations either globally or in certain areas. If a trainee is performing below expectations then it is absolutely mandatory that meaningful, insightful and precise comments are provided.

ARCP preparation

As the ARCP approaches, it is essential that the trainee reviews their ePortfolio and ensures that all requisite information is available in a logical and accessible format. In particular they should ensure that:

- All appropriate certificates have been uploaded to the personal library and are clearly signposted
- An appropriate amount of reflection has been documented
- As a bare minimum (see comments above), the requisite number of SLEs (as demanded by the annual decision aid) has been completed and recorded in the ePortfolio
- MSF has been completed and the results released by the ES. It is critical that appropriate discussion/reflection has occurred and been recorded in response to the MSF
- As a bare minimum, the requisite number of MCRs (4) have been completed by any supervisor with whom the trainee has had significant clinical/educational interaction
- The trainee has self-rated themselves for each CiP on the curriculum page
- The SMART objectives documented in their PDP have either been achieved fully and the evidence for that achievement has been clearly documented. If any objectives of the PDP have not been fully achieved, then the reasons for that have been clearly documented and evidenced.
- An appointment has been made with their ES to discuss the annual ES report that will inform the ARCP panel

The ES should review the portfolio to ensure that all the above requirements have been met and record a final rating for each CiP on the curriculum page. The ES should meet up with the trainee to discuss the ESR so that there are no surprises.

The ARCP

At the ARCP, the panel should review the ePortfolio and in particular it should focus on the ESR report but also review the MCRs, the MSF, the PDPs and reflection. It should also reassure itself that all the mandatory courses and exams have been attended/passed. If members of the panel have any concerns that the trainee under review is not eligible for a

standard outcome (outcome 1 or outcome 6) then they should examine more detail in the ePortfolio and review more of the SLEs and other subsidiary information.

Renal Medicine ARCP Decision Aid 2022

This decision aid provides guidance on the requirement to be achieved for a satisfactory ARCP outcome at the end of each training year. All numbers are indicative and the ARCP panel should make a decision based on holistic review of the trainee's progress. The training requirements for Internal Medicine (IMS2) are set out in the IMS2 ARCP decision aid . The ARCP decision aids are available on the JRCPTB website www.jrcptb.org.uk/training-certification/arcp-decision-aids

Evidence / requirement	Notes	Year 1 (ST4)	Year 2 (ST5)	Year 3 (ST6)	Year 4 (ST7)
Educational supervisor (ES) report	Indicative one per year to cover the training year since last ARCP (up to the date of the current ARCP)	Confirms meeting or exceeding expectations and no concerns	Confirms meeting or exceeding expectations and no concerns	Confirms meeting or exceeding expectations and no concerns	Confirms will meet all requirements needed to complete training
Generic capabilities in practice (CiPs)	Mapped to Generic Professional Capabilities (GPC) framework and assessed using global ratings. Trainees should record self-rating to facilitate discussion with ES. ES report will record rating for each generic CiP	ES to confirm trainee meets expectations for level of training	ES to confirm trainee meets expectations for level of training	ES to confirm trainee meets expectations for level of training	ES to confirm trainee meets expectations for level of training
Specialty capabilities in practice (CiPs)	See grid below of levels expected for each year of training. Trainees must complete self-rating to facilitate discussion with ES. ES report will confirm entrustment level for each CiP	ES to confirm trainee is performing at or above the level expected for all CiPs	ES to confirm trainee is performing at or above the level expected for all CiPs	ES to confirm trainee is performing at or above the level expected for all CiPs	ES to confirm level 4 in all CiPs by end of training
Multiple consultant report (MCR)	Each MCR is completed by a consultant who has supervised the trainee's clinical work and the	4 responses in MCR summary	4 responses in MCR summary	4 responses in MCR summary	4 responses in MCR summary

Evidence / requirement	Notes	Year 1 (ST4)	Year 2 (ST5)	Year 3 (ST6)	Year 4 (ST7)
	reports are collated in the MCR summary report. The ES should not complete an MCR for their own trainee				
Multi-source feedback (MSF)	12 raters including 3 consultants and a mixture of other staff (medical and non-medical). MSF report must be released by the ES and feedback discussed with the trainee before the ARCP. If significant concerns are raised then arrangements should be made for a repeat MSF	1	1	1	1
Supervised Learning Events (SLEs): Acute care assessment tool (ACAT) / Case-based discussion (CbD) /mini-clinical evaluation exercise (mini-CEX)	Trainees are encouraged to undertake these to gain structured feedback and to aid the trainee's personal development. These should be reflected on by the trainee,. SLEs will also inform the Educational Supervisor Report. There is no fixed minimum, and Educational Supervisors may request additional SLEs if concerns are identified. SLEs should be undertaken throughout the training year by a range of assessors.				
European Specialty Examination Nephrology (ESENeph)	Failure to pass the ESENeph by the end of ST6 will result in a non-standard ARCP outcome				Passed

Evidence / requirement	Notes	Year 1 (ST4)	Year 2 (ST5)	Year 3 (ST6)	Year 4 (ST7)
Advanced life support (ALS)		Valid	Valid	Valid	Valid
Patient Survey (PS)			1		1
Quality improvement (QI) project	Project to be assessed with quality improvement project tool (QIPAT)	Participation in QI project	Participation in QI project	Completion of QI project with satisfactory QIPAT	Portfolio of involvement in quality Improvement
Teaching attendance	An indicative minimum hours per training year. To be specified at induction	70% attendance at local/regional training days	70% attendance at local/regional training days	70% attendance at local/regional training days	70% attendance at local/regional training days
Teaching	To be assessed by teaching observation (TO)	Evidence of participation in teaching	Evidence of participation in teaching	Evaluated participation in teaching confirmed by satisfactory structured teaching observation	Evidence of participation in teaching
Management					Evidence of management skills and knowledge (eg completion of an NHS business/ management course)

Practical procedural skills

Trainees must be proficient in the insertion of temporary haemodialysis catheters to facilitate acute or urgent haemodialysis. Proficiency in the insertion of both femoral vein and internal jugular vein catheters is required.

Many trainees will also choose to become proficient in the placement of tunnelled dialysis catheters, native kidney biopsy, transplant kidney biopsy and placement of peritoneal dialysis catheters. These procedures are recommended but are not mandated in the curriculum. Local Education Providers that offer training in other procedures will need to put in place mechanisms to provide training and assure competence for independent practice.

Trainees should receive training in procedural skills in a clinical skills lab if required. Assessment of procedural skills will be made using the direct observation of procedural skills (DOPS) tool. When a trainee has been signed off as being able to perform a procedure independently, they are not required to have any further assessment (DOPS) of that procedure, unless they or their educational supervisor think that this is required (in line with standard professional conduct).

Essential procedures

Procedure	ST3	ST4	ST5	ST6
Non-tunnelled intravenous dialysis catheters	Able to perform unsupervised	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain

Recommended procedures

Trainees will be expected to have knowledge of the following procedures including indications and how to deal with complications. It is not mandatory to be able to perform the procedures.

Procedure
Native Renal biopsy
Tunnelled intravenous dialysis catheters
Non-surgical insertion of peritoneal dialysis catheters
Transplant Renal Biopsy

Levels to be achieved by the end of each training year for Renal Medicine specialty CiPs

Levels to be achieved by the end of each training year

Level descriptors

Level 1: Entrusted to observe only – no clinical care; Level 2: Entrusted to act with direct supervision; Level 3: Entrusted to act with indirect supervision; Level 4: Entrusted to act unsupervised

Specialty CiP	ST4	ST5	ST6	ST7	CRITICAL PROGRESSION POINT
1. Running a renal ward	2	2	3	4	
2. Managing a haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis programme	2	2	3	4	
3. Running an acute renal referral service	2	2	3	4	
4. Managing patients with chronic kidney disease stages 1-5	2	2	3	4	
5. Understanding of subspecialty clinical services	2	2	3	4	
6. Managing transplant patients	2	2	3	4	

Training programme

Renal training programme is set up over four years, with an indicative one year dedicated to continued internal medicine training (this maybe spread out over the course of the programme). At the end of the four years trainees are expected to be at 'Level 4: Entrusted to act unsupervised' in all renal and clinical / generic CiPs and will receive dual accreditation in Renal and General Internal Medicine.

Trainees are expected to gain experience in each renal CiP throughout their training. However, in some cases it may be appropriate to focus on certain CiPs where specialist services are available (e.g. renal transplantation, subspecialist clinical services). It may be appropriate to delay training in some of the more specialist renal CiPs to year 2/3 (ST5/6) of training.

Renal trainees will be assessed predominantly using MCRs, which will highlight competence of each CiP throughout the year. At least four consultants reports should contribute to the MCR, which will form a key component of the ESR. Trainees should be encouraged to use SLEs when specific feedback or additional evidence is required.

The renal curriculum sets out 'themes' with specific detail on conditions which map to the six renal CiPs. This should be used to guide trainees to focus on particular presentations, condition and issues whilst achieving competence in each CiP. Evidence for each element of the content of learning is not required.

Renal trainees are expected to be competent (able to perform unsupervised) in the insertion of non-tunnelled intravenous dialysis catheters by the end of their first year (ST4). Clinical skills labs should be available for training if required. Assessment of procedure skills will be made using the DOPS tool and once a trainee is signed off further DOPS are not necessary. It will be up to the trainee ensure they are confident to continue to perform the procedure and ask for additional training assessment as required.

Trainees are expected to have knowledge of the other procedures set out in the curriculum, but performance of these procedures is not mandated. If a trainee chooses to become proficient in the recommended procedures, Local Education Providers that offer training will put in place mechanisms to provide training and assure competence for independent practice.

Renal trainees are expected to have passed the ESENeph by completion of training to be awarded a CCT. It is recommended trainees attempt the exam in year 2/3 (ST5/6) of their training to avoid potential extension of training.

Teaching is an integral part of the renal training programme. Trainees are expected to attend 70% of their local / regional training days in each year of their training.

They are expected to provide teaching to a variety of health care professional and/or student each year. Trainees are required to have at least one satisfactory teaching observation by the end of year 3 (ST6).

Renal trainees are expected to be involved with Quality Improvement projects throughout their training, with the aim of completion of at least one QI project by the end of year 3 (ST6) as evidenced by a QIPAT.

Trainees should be encouraged to consider taking time 'out of programme' in order to gain broader skills that could be utilised as an NHS consultant.

Training resources links

[JRCPTB renal medicine specialty webpage](#)

[Gold Guide](#)

[British Renal Society](#)

[The Renal Association](#)

Glossary of abbreviations

ACAT	Acute Care Assessment Tool
ALS	Advanced Life Support
ARCP	Annual Review of Competence Progression
CiP	Capabilities in Practice
CbD	Case-based Discussion
CCT	Certificate of Completion of Training
CS	Clinical Supervisor
DOPS	Direct Observation of Procedural Skills
EPA	Entrustable Professional Activity
ES	Educational Supervisor
GPC	Generic Professional Capabilities
GMC	General Medical Council
HoS	Head of School
JRCPTB	Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board
MDT	Multidisciplinary Team
MCR	Multiple Consultant Report
Mini CEX	Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise
MSF	Multi-Source Feedback
NTN	National Training Number
PDP	Professional Development Plan
PS	Patient Survey
SLE	Supervised Learning Event
WPBA	Workplace Based Assessment

JRCPTB

Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board

