

Renal Association Education and Training Committee

Update for Renal Executive meeting September 2009

Sue Carr

1. CPD sessions Renal Association 2010 meeting - 3 sessions are planned

Medicine for Scientists.

Vascular access –UK perspective and European perspective (ERA)

Haemodialysis Update

2. Advanced Nephrology Course

Sunil Bhandari and Paul Harden planning the a trial 3 day course in Oxford. They have developed a new programme which looks excellent and plan to run this in January 2010.

3. Renal Specialty Training Curriculum review group (RSTCRG)

This group has developing a new Curriculum for Renal medicine as part of the RCP Project 2010 major Curriculum review for PMETB. The first draft of the Curriculum will be completed in September.

We have a date to present the curriculum to PMETB on the 25th November. The project 2010 curriculum will be quite different to the previous curriculum, there will no longer be a stand alone generic curriculum and the leadership competences and health inequalities framework have had to be integrated into the Curriculum.

4. e- learning

A successful bid was made in May 2009 by John Firth and Sue Carr on behalf of the Renal Association to the Department of Health e-Learning for Health to produce E learning context related to kidney diseases. We held a meeting with DOH to discuss moving forwards and are currently awaiting a further meeting.

A telephone conference was held to explore developing an online platform for existing renal resources. There is no funding available at present to engage an IT company to develop a specific platform e.g Moodle etc and Neil Turner has kindly modified the Education areas of the website to enable links to be uploaded. Several colleagues expressed an interest in moving this forwards. The minutes of this meeting are attached as an update.

5. Flexible Training Update

The RA Education and Training Committee are conscious of the changing nature of the renal workforce, and the need to increase help and support for flexible renal trainees and less than full time (LTFTW) renal consultants, especially since we expect an increasing number of LTFTW in future.

We are currently preparing a new improved webpage and numerous initiatives as outlined below.

1. Details of the current LFTW email network and how to join it.

2. Advice or a “toolkit” for trainees and trainers on how to go about setting up LFT training slot-shares or supernumerary posts.
 3. Details of available contacts in different areas with experience of LTFTW who are prepared to act as mentors.
 4. Details of trainees who are looking for slot-share partners.
 5. Examples of anonymous LFTW and job sharing consultant job plans to inform and advise those trying to set up such posts – at present there is almost no available guidance, though the RCPs are trying to address this issue. Many LFTW struggle with excessive workload and inadequate SPAs in their agreed job plans.
 6. A short summary from Phil Mason and the Workforce Committee, explaining current workforce data and trainee numbers and our best information about intentions for flexible/LFTW in future.
 7. Links to other useful LFTW sites eg. RCP etc etc.
 8. Perhaps also a ‘notice board’ for trainees to post comments and share their experience of LFTW.
- Alison Brown is liaising with the new assistant webmaster, Sid Ahmed, to progress this webpage.