



Royal College of Anaesthetists

Training Programme Update

Nbr: 03/2009

Date: 19 November 2009

Out of Programme Training / Research

Background

Off-rotation training (ORT), which the College administered happily for years, had a name change and is now called Out of Programme Training/Research (OOPT/R). **Prospective** approval must be sought from PMETB and failure to obtain PMETB approval will mean that the OOPT/R time and competences achieved, will not be credited towards a CCT, thus delaying the award of a CCT/CESR (CP). This policy was introduced by PMETB in February 2007.

PMETB Policy

PMETB proposed a process in 2008 which would allow Colleges to apply for blanket approval for overseas hospitals used for OOPT rotations. The College applied for blanket approval for hospitals in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. The purpose of the blanket approval means that trainee applications would not need to be sent to PMETB for final approval. The College would be the final approving authority and would be responsible for the monitoring of the quality assurance of the training received by the trainee. The list of hospitals was approved by the Training Committee at the 8 May 2008 meeting.

The College has also received blanket OOPT approval for field hospitals in Afghanistan. Despite the existence of the PMETB approved military module, no PMETB approved programme has field hospitals in Afghanistan as a rotation in the programme. This means that all military trainees (*NB does not include Territorial Army*) would have to apply for OOPT. The blanket approval means that for the Tri-services Deanery, OOPT applications are a minor formality. Afghanistan deployments for higher level trainees who complete the military module are able to count the 3 months towards their 12 months general duties requirement for ST years 5 to 7.

Procedure

This means that Deaneries will no longer have to apply to the PMETB, if the trainee has applied to one of the institutions listed, for prospective approval for the OOPT/R to be counted towards the trainee's anaesthesia training. However, please remember that each individual trainee will still have to submit the OOPT/R application form, and supporting documents to the College, for the requisite College support in order for the time to be counted towards their CCT/CESR (CP) training.

Commencement Date: With immediate effect