



Faculty of Public Health

of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom

Working to improve the public's health

CESR Combined Programme Route to entry to the specialist Register

Introduction

In May 2009 the PMETB launched the CESR Combined Programme (CESR CP) for specialty training. This route has been developed to provide flexibility to training programmes to enable trainees (with a medical background only) who have been appointed above ST1 level in specialty training to have experience and learning outcomes gained outside approved PH training posts to be taken into account and specialty training potentially shortened.

In order for a trainee to be eligible for the award of a CCT they must undertake posts and programmes approved by PMETB in public health. If trainees have been appointed above ST1 and have undertaken time in posts not approved by PMETB¹ for public health then they will be eligible for a CESR (CP)

Certificate of Eligibility for inclusion on the Specialist Register (CESR)

Both CCT and CESR certificates enable entry to the Specialist Register and both demonstrate that a trainee with a medical background has been assessed in line with the PH curriculum.

A CCT is not a legal requirement in obtaining a consultant post in the UK, rather that the applicant is listed on the Specialist Register. However holders of a CCT, as it comes from a prospectively approved training programme, are able to have the qualification automatically recognised in a specialty which is specifically listed for the UK in European Legislation ([EU Directive 2005/36/EC](#)). In contrast, as the CESR (CP) qualification does not come about from a prospectively approved training programme, it will not be automatically recognised.

¹ This policy does not apply to those trainees entering to public health training with an appropriate academic course acquired prior to commencing training.

Policy

As part of the public health curriculum Phase 1 is the Academic phase of training. Within this phase of training, trainees normally undertake an appropriate academic course to provide trainees with the appropriate knowledge base to progress in training and prepare them for the Part A examination. In August 2007 the Faculty of Public Health (FPH) agreed with PMETB that if a trainee commencing public health specialty training with an appropriate academic course, trainees could move directly on to ST2 in training. This agreement is applied prospectively and no amendments to this agreement will be made.

The CESR CP process expects that any experience/learning outcomes gained outside of specialty training AND outside of PMETB approved posts must be agreed and deemed appropriate by the training programme upon appointment to the appropriate year of training and declared upon enrolment with FPH. The decision of the training programme is confirmed with via the first ARCP. Trainees must therefore state at the point of enrolment which route of training they are following (CCT/CESR CP).

It is expected that this decision would also be ratified by the Royal Colleges. This is done via an assessment of the documentary evidence used to support the decision to appoint the trainee at the level above ST1 (with an exception for those appointed to ST2 already completed an academic course). This assessment will be undertaken by the FPH Director of Training – Registration and, if necessary, by the FPH Equivalence Committee. The decision of the Royal College will be communicated back to the Deanery (approval) or to PMETB (refusal).

FPH expects PMETB to consider applications from specialty registrars recruited since 2007 to whom this policy applies, to ensure no trainees are disadvantaged by their change in policy.

The documentary evidence required is:

ST3: proof that a trainee has passed MFPH Part A examination and achieved 50% of Phase 2 competences.

ST4: proof that a trainee has passed MFPH Part A and B examinations and normally achieved all Phase 2 competences.

Entry to ST3 and ST4: ARCP type assessment of competences and supporting evidence of how this was assessed and validated at the first ARCP.

This route applies to those trainees who have been appointed above ST1 in specialty training leading to a CCT. This is applicable to those trainees completing training from July/August 2009. From the point of entry trainees will

- follow the public health [curriculum](#);
- be required to pass the [FPH examinations](#) and approved [assessments](#);
- have progress monitored via the ARCP process in the same way that trainees following a CCT route will
- be assessed identically to CCT trainees, including final assessment indicating they have successfully achieved competencies outlined in the curriculum.

There is no minimum time that a trainee must spend in a training programme; however to be eligible for the CESR (CP) route a trainee must have had a minimum of two ARCPs; one of which must be the final ARCP. This means that it is likely that they will have spent at least two years in specialty training. For further information on ARCPs please refer to the Gold Guide.

All trainees must [enrol](#) with FPH and complete an [enrolment form](#) clearly stating the point of entry to specialty training and the route which they will follow (CESR/CESR CP/ CCT). The enrolment process is to ensure FPH are able to oversee a trainee's progress in training. It is important that all trainees enrol with FPH within 3 months of commencing training.

For further information on FAQs for the CESR (CP) route please see the PMETB website at <http://www.pmetb.org.uk/index.php?id=2967>.

FLOWCHART CCT & CESR(CP) ROUTES IN PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING

