

London Deanery and KSS Deanery: Joint statement on the accreditation of educational supervisors

Background

1. In 2008, the General Medical Council [GMC] and Postgraduate Medical Education and Training Board [PMETB] introduced a new, national, statutory requirement for all consultant educational supervisors to be trained and accredited for their role.
2. Each deanery has been made separately accountable to PMETB and GMC for implementing this new requirement as part of deaneries' processes for educational governance and quality management. Separate accountability is an important principle for the Department of Health and the NHS because:
 - a. It reflects the contractual lines through which postgraduate medical education and training is funded and managed;
 - b. It enables regional and local differences, in operational management and organisational need, to be taken into account;
 - c. It supports the development of best practice by encouraging regional diversity and creativity in approach.
3. In practice, this means that:
 - a. Consultants must follow the requirements of the deanery from which their employing local education provider [LEP] receives the majority of its postgraduate medical education funding. This is reflected in an education contract signed by the LEP's Chief Executive and the Deanery's Dean Director.
 - b. Different deaneries offer different processes for the accreditation of educational supervisors, depending on their contexts, resources and educational philosophies.

London Deanery and KSS Deanery accreditation

4. Both London Deanery and KSS Deanery believe that the accreditation of consultants as educational supervisors is important because:
 - a. Educational governance is linked directly to clinical governance: good teaching and supervision makes better doctors;
 - b. Learners are entitled to be taught by people who teach well, who engage with their learning needs, and support their development and progression;
 - c. Patients are entitled to be attended by doctors who are well taught and well supported;
 - d. Consultants who are required to teach and supervise are entitled to learn how to do it well.
 - e. The vast majority of participants have found their programmes helpful and enjoyable. In KSS Deanery, for example, over a thousand consultants opted to follow the KSS accreditation route voluntarily, before the GMC and PMETB made such programmes a national requirement.

5. London and KSS Deaneries recognise that some consultants teach on training programmes managed jointly or separately by both deaneries. In these circumstances the following rules apply:
- a. **KSS consultants must meet KSS requirements:** If a consultant is employed by an LEP that receives the majority of its funding for postgraduate medical education and training from (and has an education contract with) KSS Deanery then they must follow the KSS accreditation route.
 - b. **London consultants must meet London requirements:** If a consultant is employed by an LEP that receives the majority of its funding for postgraduate medical education and training from (and has an education contract with) London Deanery then they must follow the London accreditation route.
 - c. **KSS consultants do not need to meet London requirements:** If a consultant is already accredited by KSS Deanery as an educational supervisor and teaches on a London Deanery managed programme then they are not required to be accredited by the London Deanery.
 - d. **London consultants do not need to meet KSS requirements:** If a consultant is already accredited by London Deanery as an educational supervisor and teaches on a KSS Deanery managed programme then they are not required to be accredited by the KSS Deanery.
 - e. **All consultants are welcome to undertake additional programmes:** Consultants who have satisfied the requirements of accreditation in their home Deanery may undertake, on a voluntary basis, to follow a further educational programme. Both Deaneries will accept applications for such additional programmes and each deanery will make provision according to availability of resources at the time of application.
 - f. **External educational qualifications count too:** Both Deaneries recognise that consultants may have completed educational programmes provided by, for example, Royal Colleges, Higher Education Institutions, or private training agents. Both Deaneries provide the means by which these qualifications can be used towards accreditation [via an Accreditation of Prior Learning (APEL) process in KSS] and further details can be found on their respective websites.
 - g. **If you are not sure, then ask:** If an individual consultant is unsure which accreditation route they should follow then they may seek clarification in the first place from their LEP's Medical Education Manager or Director of Medical Education, who may seek clarification from the relevant deanery.



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