

Statement about cardiology training

The attempt to move to single accreditation in cardiology has been the focus of much effort by trainees in the past few weeks. This may have been precipitated by a statement released from one of the HEE local offices that *"The GMC have decreed that all trainees on a dual programme (cardiology and IM) appointed before 2020 will be able to drop the IM component – but not those appointed after 2020. For this to happen, trainees will need to submit their paperwork before December 2020 – this is a firm deadline set by the GMC. After this, anyone who has not submitted will need to transfer to the new curriculum"*. As no firm agreement has been signed off by the GMC this is an unfortunate official notification and there is a need to provide some clarification.

JRCPTB do believe that most cardiology trainees should be encouraged to stay in dual training with General Internal Medicine (GIM). The cardiology SAC agrees trainees appointed in 2020 should not drop GIM and have made it clear that they only support those in more advanced training moving to single accreditation. They have cautioned more junior trainees (ST3 and ST4) to think very carefully about their decision with regard to single accreditation. It is likely many of those who do decide to single accredit in cardiology will still be in programme for some years to come thus there will be dual running of curricula to accommodate this after the new cardiology/IM programme commences in 2022.

Applications of trainees to their local office or deanery to discontinue GIM training may or may not be approved according to local needs and it is also clear that the service requirement of involvement in GIM will not be removed by the discontinuation of GIM training and trainees rostered to such jobs will need to continue to provide GIM services.

Dr Alison Calver
Chair Cardiology SAC

Dr Mike Jones
Medical Director Training and Development, Federation of Royal College of Physicians