

Welcome to Combined Infection Training!

We are writing as chairs of the JRCPTB/RCPATH Combined Infection Training Specialist Training Committee (CIT SAC) to welcome you to your infection training programme.

There is no doubt that it is an exciting time to be training in any infection specialty. As well as managing a busy clinical and laboratory case-mix, we are involved with rapidly evolving issues as diverse as antimicrobial resistance, post-pandemic preparedness, developing molecular diagnostics, the impact of climate change on imported infections and the consequences of rapid and frequent global travel.

The CIT SAC is a joint colleges (RCP and RCPATH) committee responsible for overseeing the training programme and has representation from every Infection Training Programme (via Training Programme Directors, TPDs) across the four nations. We hope that the following information is useful supplementary information to the induction you will receive from your individual training programmes.

There are a variety of combinations of specialties that make up Infection training; you may have chosen to train in Infectious Diseases (ID) with Internal Medicine (IM), Medical Microbiology (MM) or Medical Virology (MV), or in MM or MV as single specialties. Tropical Medicine (TM) recruitment is currently limited but is under active review.

Registration with the Colleges

It is very important you register as a specialty trainee with the Royal Colleges. This ensures you receive the correct information during training and gives you access to your training eportfolio, as well as other college support.

- ***Infectious diseases / Internal Medicine:***
 - Register with JRCPTB via the invitation email you will be sent. If you do not receive an email by the end of July, please contact Enrolments@thefederation.uk.
 - Ensure you have an eportfolio for both Infection Specialties AND Internal Medicine
- ***Infectious diseases /Medical Microbiology, Infectious diseases/Medical Virology:***
 - Register with JRCPTB via the invitation email you will be sent. If you do not receive an email by the end of July, please contact Enrolments@thefederation.uk
 - AND register with RCPATH via the following ([Online registration form for dual trainees](#)). Please note, there is no additional fee for registration with RCPATH as a dual trainee
- ***Medical Microbiology or Medical Virology (single specialty):***
 - Register with the RCPATH via the website ([Register as a trainee](#))

Curricula and Syllabuses

There are four relevant curricula for infection trainees (separate to the Internal Medicine curriculum for IM trainees). The curriculum and syllabus required depends on the final CCT(s) e.g. ID/MM trainees follow both ID and MM curricula and syllabuses etc. If you have any queries, or it appears that your curricula are not in your eportfolio, please discuss with your ES or TPD.

- **MM:** curriculum and syllabus [Medical-Microbiology-2021-curriculum.pdf](#)
- **MV:** curriculum and syllabus [2021 Medical Virology curriculum](#)
- **ID:** syllabus [Syllabus%20for%20Infectious%20Diseases%202021.pdf](#), and curriculum [Infectious%20Diseases%202021curriculum%20FINAL_0.pdf](#)
- **TM:** syllabus [Syllabus%20for%20Tropical%20Medicine%202021.pdf](#) and curriculum [Tropical%20Medicine%202021%20curriculum%20FINAL_0.pdf](#)

Recommended training courses

Attached is an updated list of approved training courses for infection trainees. It is meant as a reference document to be tailored to individual interests and training needs rather than a list of courses that must be done. Your training programme may also have a specific list of courses that are approved/mandatory for training locally. This list is updated annually and hosted on the JRCPTB SharePoint to which your TPD has access.

Examinations

All Infection specialty trainees need to pass the exam, which is targeted to those approximately at the end of the first 2 years of your training programme.

There are different ways to register, depending on your training pathway; please ensure you register for the correct one! However, please note the exam papers for both FRCPATH part 1 Infection and CICE are identical.

You should register for:

- **FRCPATH Part 1 Infection** if you are an ID/MM, ID/MV, MM, MV, TM/MM or TM/MV trainee
- **CICE (Combined Infection Certificate Examination)** if you are an ID/IM or TM/IM trainee

Please also note that UK Infection Specialty trainees **do not** sit the FRCPATH 'Part 1 Microbiology' exam, which is a separate examination for clinical scientists or medical microbiologists not training in the UK Combined Infection Training scheme.

Following FRCPATH Part 1 Infection, those training in microbiology or virology (either single or dual specialty) will also need to pass the relevant part 2 examination: FRCPATH part 2 microbiology or FRCPATH part 2 virology, usually sat in late ST6/early ST7 years.

More information is available via the RCPATH website on examinations at this link: [Infection](#).

Specialist Societies

There are numerous specialist societies that might interest you as a trainee in infection. Many run educational events and courses which are often good value for trainees and some produce clinical guidelines relevant to infection. These include:

- British Infection Association (BIA) [British Infection Association \(BIA\) | Supporting infection specialists and trainees, and to further research infection](#)

- Clinical Virology Network (CVN) [Clinical Virology Network – Clinical Virology Network](#)
- Healthcare Infection Society (HIS) [Healthcare Infection Society - Healthcare Infection Society](#)
- British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (BSAC) [The British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy - Saving Lives by Fighting Infection](#)
- British HIV Association (BHIVA) [BHIVA – BHIVA is the leading UK association representing professionals in HIV care](#)
- British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) [BASHH](#)
- Infection Prevention Society (IPS) [Welcome - Infection Prevention Society](#)

Inter-deanery Transfers

We hope that you will be happy in the region to which you have been appointed. However, we understand that rarely there may be reasons for you to consider requesting an inter-deanery transfer (IDT). If so, we suggest you discuss additional support with your Educational Supervisor (ES) or TPD in the first instance, and also refer to the local and national guidance on IDTs: [Inter-Deanery Transfers \(IDT\) | Medical Hub](#). Trainees should note that requests for transfer are not normally advised within the first 12 months of joining a training programme.

Professional Support Units

Trainees in all deaneries have access to a Professional Support Unit who can offer a range of advice and services such as counselling and exam support. We suggest you approach your Pastoral tutor, ES or TPD if needed.

Useful Contact details

Your ES and TPD are your best first point of contact, but you may also contact the CIT SAC trainee representatives, or any of us as CIT chairs. The current trainee rep post holders are:

- Dr Amy Belfield Infectious diseases and British Infection Association rep
- Dr Isobel Ramsey Microbiology trainee rep
- Dr Neil McInnes Virology trainee rep

Email queries should initially come to training@rcpath.org so that they can be forwarded appropriately.

We very much hope you will enjoy your training programme and wish you all the very best of luck in your new posts.

With best wishes



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