

Curricula Review Project & CESR

Overview

At present RCPsych are conducting an extensive review of all psychiatric training curricula to be completed by the end of 2020. This is a requirement for all medical royal colleges as a result of the [new standards set by the GMC](#) to ensure all postgraduate medical training curricula are in line with principles outlined in [the Shape of Training review](#).

There are two stages to the approval process for the new curricula the initial stage is application to and approval by the Curriculum Oversight Group (COG). At present, the Core and Adult psychiatry applications have been approved; the remaining eight COG applications were submitted on 17th September 2019 and feedback on the application outcomes will be provided from the GMC in November 2019. The second phase is approval by the GMC's Curriculum Advisory Group (CAG), the deadlines of the upcoming CAG applications are outlined below.

What will the new curricula look like?

As their COG applications have been approved, we are able to share the outline of both the new [Core psychiatry curriculum](#) and [Adult psychiatry curriculum](#). Once we have received approval from the GMC the outlines for other curriculum will be available on the [curricula review project page](#) on our website. The other specialties will be following the same standards and guidelines as the core and adult psychiatry curricula.

When will CESR applicants be moved on to the new curriculum?

Any CESR applications submitted after approval of the new curriculum by the CAG at the GMC will be assessed against new curriculum standards. The timeline for the application submissions and responses are outlined below.

Speciality	RCPsych Submission Date	GMC Deadline for Response
Core Psychiatry	24 th February 2020	23 rd May 2020
Adult Psychiatry	20 th April 2020	20 th July 2020
CAP	20 th April 2020	20 th July 2020
OA	20 th April 2020	20 th July 2020
Forensic	20 th April 2020	20 th July 2020
MP	20 th April 2020	20 th July 2020
ID	17 th August 2020	16 th November 2020

What this means for applicants

It is unlikely that the new curriculum content will change the extent that would make it difficult for potential CESR applicants, who are already in the process of collecting evidence, to submit their applications in the near future.

CESR applicants should continue to collect evidence in line with the current curricula. The evidence should broadly include the following:

- A range of case histories (around 30) in the form of clinical letters and medicolegal reports which covers the range and depth of the specialty.
- Audit reports.
- Teaching records.
- Understanding of research.
- Multisource feedback.
- Communication with colleagues and patients.
- Psychotherapy.
- Professionalism.

This is not an exhaustive list but covers the major categories of evidence that should cover most of the curricular competencies.

Whilst the assessment templates for evaluators will change in line with the restructured curricula, CESR applicants should continue to collect evidence without interruption. The focus should remain on collecting primary evidence of their clinical work across a range of clinical settings that cover the depth and breadth of their specialty.

It is important to note that the biggest difference will be in Child & Adolescent psychiatry as, under the new guidelines, all curriculum content is required to be mandatory. This means that the current selective ILOs (Intended Learning Outcomes) will either be removed from the curriculum or made mandatory.

The current curriculum is being mapped to the new GMC standard of General Professional Capabilities. Once approval has been received, this will be made available to facilitate CESR applicants transferring previous portfolio preparation to the new framework.

The RCPsych equivalence team are keen to offer as much support as possible to applicants to ensure a smooth and easy transition. The team will continue to issue updates throughout the duration of the curriculum review project via the RCPsych website [curricula review project page](#). Alternatively, please do not hesitate to contact the CESR & Training Coordinator, Liz Boxall with any concerns or queries you have. She can be contacted via email at Elizabeth.boxall@rcpsych.ac.uk or on her direct line 020 3701 2625.

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This document was written in collaboration with the Curriculum Revision Working Group and the Equivalence Committee.