

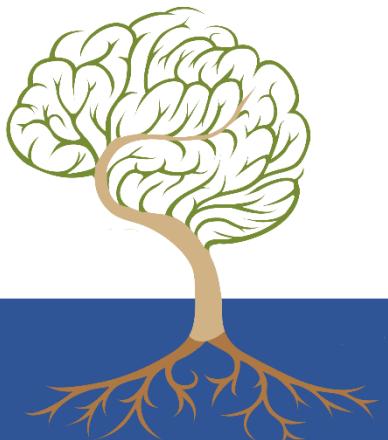
# Draft Liaison Psychiatry Curriculum

**August 2021** (to be approved)

Draft date: 07.08.2020

Royal College of Psychiatrists 2021

Royal College of Psychiatrists registered office: 21 Prescott Street, London E1 8BB, UK  
NO HEALTH WITHOUT MENTAL HEALTH



# Notes for Stakeholder Consultation

The curriculum outlined below is a proposed **draft** for review as part of our stakeholder consultation.

The proposed curricula will have 9 High Level Outcomes (HLOs) and 14 Key Capability domains, as well as a range of capabilities under each domain.

While the curricula are undergoing consultation we will continue to work on the alignment and educational wording of them.

In particular we would like feedback on whether there are any key additional capabilities to consider, as well as whether the curriculum is achievable and deliverable.

We also welcome additional comments and have provided comments sections within our feedback form.

We would also be grateful if you could complete the equality and diversity section as well.

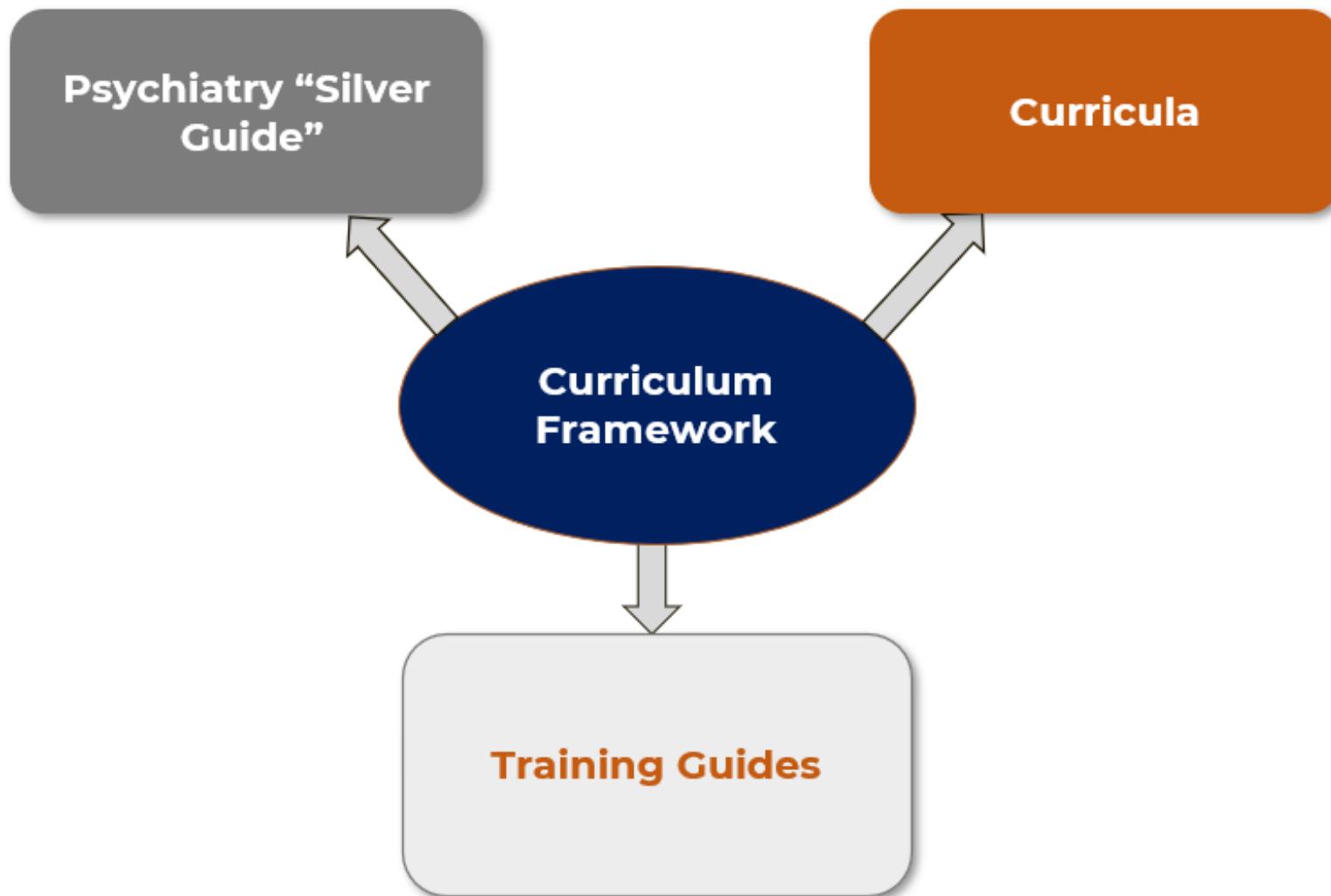
Please provide comments via our [online feedback form](#)

The deadline for comments is **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire; it is much appreciated.

If you have any additional queries, please contact [curricula@rcpsych.ac.uk](mailto:curricula@rcpsych.ac.uk)

## Curriculum Framework



# How to use this curriculum

## GPC Domain

The GMC's Generic Professional Capabilities Framework has 9 domains of medical practice, each Psychiatry HLO is linked directly to GPC domain

## High Level Outcomes (WHY)

HLO's are the overarching objectives a trainee needs to complete over the course of specialty training.

## Key Capabilities (WHAT)

Key capabilities are the mandatory requirements under each HLO that all trainees across the UK must achieve by the end of specialty training.

## Training Guides (HOW)

These will provide examples of how you can achieve the key capabilities and capabilities for each stage of training

## Liaison Psychiatry Curriculum (Draft)

On completion of the endorsement in Liaison Psychiatry, you will be able to:

GPC Domain	No	High Level Outcome	Key Capabilities
Professional Values and Behaviours	1	<b>Demonstrate the professional values and behaviours required of a Consultant medical doctor in Liaison Psychiatry, with reference to Good Medical Practice, Core Values for Psychiatrists (CR204) and other relevant faculty guidance.</b>	<p><b>1.1 Professional Relationships</b></p> <p>Consistently demonstrate a holistic and person-centred clinical approach to patients in liaison psychiatry settings that is honest, empathic, compassionate, and respects their dignity while maintaining therapeutic optimism, and boundaries</p> <p>Work collaboratively with patients, families, carers of all ages and colleagues respecting their autonomy, diversity and valuing their contribution</p> <p>Manage the complexities of diversity</p> <p>Recognise and address systemic and structural inequalities, intersectionality, and their impact on clinical outcomes and on working relationships with colleagues</p> <p>Demonstrate the ability to be flexible, lead, use initiative, be able to prioritise, and be adaptable.</p> <p><b>1.2 Professional Standards</b></p> <p>Consistently demonstrate a positive and conscientious approach to the completion of your work. Understand the impact of workload, patient and organisational dynamics on your own well-being</p>

		<p>Develop strategies to take care of your wellbeing, seeking timely support and guidance</p> <p>Recognise the importance of reflective practice towards understanding the emotional impact of the work on the individual and team, including the impact of suicide and homicide</p> <p>Use supervision and reflection effectively recognising your skills, limitations and your duty of candour</p> <p>Make clear, accurate and contemporaneous records</p> <p>Act as ambassador to promote mental health in physical health care settings including acting as an advocate for your patients and their carers</p> <p>Effectively use available technologies where appropriate and necessary, taking into account knowledge of their complexities and limitations</p> <p>Demonstrate the capacity to adapt practice to changing circumstances, clinical models, evolution of scientific knowledge to improve patient care</p> <p>Maintain the appropriate professional standards while working clinically, as a leader within healthcare organisations</p> <p>Develop the capacity to work autonomously and collaboratively to provide clinical leadership and psychological understanding to MDT colleagues</p> <p>Develop a supportive professional and clinical network to enable you to work autonomously</p> <p>Develop safe, confidential settings as a secure base for clinical work</p> <p>Uphold the need for confidentiality in information sharing towards maintaining a high</p>
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			<p>standard of patient care whilst allowing privacy to be maintained</p> <p>Take responsibility for raising and addressing issues of patient safety and quality of care in a timely manner.</p>
<b>Professional Skills</b>	<b>2</b>	<p><b>Demonstrate advanced communication and interpersonal skills when engaging with patients in physical healthcare settings, their families, carers and healthcare professionals.</b></p> <p><b>Demonstrate an ability to communicate complex psychological, biomedical and social concepts in written communication.</b></p> <p><b>Effectively manage conflict involving patients, professionals, teams and systems.</b></p> <p><b>Demonstrate advanced skills in psychiatric assessment, investigation, formulation and diagnosis in physical health care</b></p>	<p><b>2.1 Communication</b></p> <p>Demonstrate advanced communication and interpersonal skills when engaging with patients in physical healthcare settings, their families, carers and healthcare professionals</p> <p>Reflect your understanding of how patient values and perspectives may differ in a physical health setting and the influence this may have had on engagement, assessment, treatment and management- demonstrate how to agree a shared approach in these conditions</p> <p>Explain a range of psychological therapies to patients, carers and other professionals and organise subsequent management appropriately</p> <p>Understand the pressures on healthcare professionals in a physical healthcare setting, the impact this may have on values and perspectives and how this may influence assessment and management: demonstrate how to agree a management plan in these conditions</p> <p>Appropriately involve family and carers</p> <p>Demonstrate an ability to communicate complex psychological, biomedical and social concepts in written communication</p> <p>Demonstrate the ability to use/adapt new and emerging/changing technologies where</p>

	<p><b>settings.</b></p> <p><b>Work collaboratively with patients and health care professionals to develop integrated psychological, bio-medical and social management plans for a range of mental health presentations within physical health care settings.</b></p> <p><b>Identify, understand, and negotiate complexity and uncertainty in a wide range of clinical and non-clinical contexts.</b></p>	<p>appropriate and understand the limitations</p> <p>Communicate risk assessments effectively and succinctly to other healthcare professionals</p> <p>Reflect on the different communication needs of different groups including patients, families, primary and secondary care professionals, mental health teams and social services. Demonstrate ability to tailor your communication accordingly</p> <p>Be adept in communicating potentially distressing diagnostic and prognostic information associated with the overlap with physical and mental health, with patients, carers and clinicians; develop therapeutic optimism and hope</p> <p>Effectively manage conflict involving patients, professionals, teams and systems</p> <p>Demonstrate the ability to utilise psychotherapeutic skills in assisting staff groups in other disciplines in the management of complex situations.</p> <p><b>2.2 Clinical knowledge and skills</b></p> <p>Demonstrate advanced skills in holistic, bio-psycho-social assessment, investigation, formulation and diagnosis of mental disorders in physical health care settings</p> <p>Demonstrate detailed knowledge of epidemiology and common presentations of psychiatric and psychological problems in physical health care settings</p> <p>Knowledge of relevant questionnaires and screening tools in the liaison psychiatry setting and their limitations</p>
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Identify and diagnose disorders described above in physical healthcare settings

Show how you can use physical healthcare records to develop a systematic chronology of a patient's history to aid assessment

Perform a detailed assessment of cognitive function taking in to account the limitations of the setting and physical health of the patient

Be able to assess patients on busy wards and ED, respecting patient dignity and confidentiality

Demonstrate a flexible approach in assessment taking in to account the patient's current physical health status

Demonstrate ability to integrate information from multiple sources to develop a formulation

Correctly interpret the results of physical examination and investigations

Liaise and discuss additional investigations with colleagues in the multi-professional team in order to utilise investigations appropriately

Carry out a comprehensive assessment of risk including: self-harm, suicide; violence; exploitation; neglect; environmental risk; unintentional physical harm, elder abuse

Work collaboratively with patients and health care professionals to develop integrated psychological, bio-medical and social management plans for a range of mental health presentations within physical health care settings

		<p>Demonstrate contemporary up to date knowledge of the risk and benefits of psychotropic medication and safely use it in patients with physical health challenges.</p> <p>Ability to understand the changes in the ageing or compromised brain and body and adapt treatment strategies accordingly</p> <p>Demonstrate ability to collaboratively develop and deliver a management plan for patients with functional symptoms and long term physical conditions with the individual and their healthcare team, sustaining a therapeutic relationship over a period of time to enable its implementation</p> <p>Arrange appropriate follow up when required to provide continuity of care</p> <p>Manage psychiatric emergencies in the physical health care setting including emergency use of medication, rapid tranquilisation, use of restraint and post event management aspects</p> <p>Develop and negotiate safe, effective and compassionate risk management plans with patients, family, carers and other health care professionals</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of evidence based psychological treatments and an ability to use these skills in the assessment and management in a liaison psychiatry setting</p> <p>Manage at least one supervised psychotherapy case, using an appropriate psychotherapy modality, drawn from the liaison psychiatry setting</p> <p>Be familiar with and adept with terminology used in physical healthcare settings</p> <p>Use a detailed knowledge of contemporary classification systems to understand presentations in physical healthcare settings, including functional symptoms and long-</p>
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		<p>term physical health conditions</p> <p>Be adept at initiating, changing, discontinuing psychotropic medication, including advising colleagues who don't have a mental health care background. Be aware of limitations and interactions</p> <p>Demonstrate an ability to work across interfaces, between psychiatric, and other medical and non-medical specialties and services, demonstrating appropriate liaison and collaboration</p> <p>Offer psychiatric expertise and guidance to other practitioners (e.g. through consultation or clinical supervision) to provide alternative perspectives for understanding and treatment</p> <p>Demonstrate involvement and contribution to multi-professional management of patients' needs and risks.</p> <p><b>2.3 Complexity and Uncertainty</b></p> <p>Identify, understand, and negotiate complexity and uncertainty in a wide range of clinical and non-clinical contexts</p> <p>Demonstrate awareness of diagnostic uncertainty, and ability to manage uncertainty when appropriate</p> <p>Demonstrate ability to recognise and manage clinical uncertainty, ambiguity, complex co-morbidities of mental and physical illness, including risks associated with various presentations</p>
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			<p>Recognise and manage unconscious dynamics between yourself, your patients, the liaison team, and other healthcare teams</p> <p>Demonstrate an ability to deviate from care pathways/guidelines when clinically indicated</p> <p>Understand the limits of your clinical capabilities, seeking timely support and consultation when appropriate</p> <p>Manage divergent views about patient care or intervention and deliver appropriate interventions</p> <p>Prioritise information in situations of urgency. Demonstrate expertise in applying the principles of crisis intervention in emergency situations. Be able to make urgent care plans and maintain professionalism</p> <p>Observe, absorb, contain and reflect on complex clinical/non-clinical situations to develop a balanced response. Support colleagues to do likewise</p> <p>Review treatment and management plans of patients when the outcome is not as expected or hoped for.</p>
<b>Professional Knowledge</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Demonstrate advanced knowledge of, and apply, relevant legislative frameworks across the UK to safeguard patients and safely manage risk.</b>	<p><b>3.1 Knowledge of legal and organisational frameworks in your UK Jurisdiction</b></p> <p>Demonstrate understanding of and apply the current legislation in your UK jurisdiction governing the care and treatment of people with mental disorder in physical healthcare settings</p> <p>Demonstrate advanced practical knowledge and application of the relevant mental</p>

	<p><b>Demonstrate advanced knowledge of the structure and organisation of physical care settings across the UK.</b></p> <p><b>Demonstrate how interfaces between different services and organisations impact on patient care.</b></p>	<p>health legislation, including the use of emergency powers and compulsory treatment aspects in physical healthcare settings</p> <p>Demonstrate advanced practical knowledge and application of the relevant mental capacity legislation, in physical healthcare settings</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of the structure and development of national health and care services and regulatory authorities</p> <p>Balance the duty of care to the patient and the protection of others with the restriction of human rights when considering the use of legal powers</p> <p>Demonstrate working knowledge of local health and social care services through your interactions with them</p> <p>Have relevant statutory approval</p> <p>Demonstrate awareness and understanding of clinical governance structures in physical health care settings</p> <p>Demonstrate understanding of the current national standards, policies and guidelines in relation to the mental health and social care needs of patients in physical health care settings</p> <p>Understand models of consultation – liaison psychiatry and emergency working sufficiently to explain and negotiate with physical and mental health care colleagues and managers</p> <p>Awareness of interfaces between Liaison Psychiatry and other psychiatric specialties, other branches of medicine and other service providers, including social services.</p>
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<b>Health Promotion &amp; Illness Prevention</b>	<b>4</b> <p><b>Demonstrate leadership and advocacy in mental and physical health promotion, illness prevention and risk reduction strategies for your patients, and their wider community.</b></p> <p><b>Demonstrate advanced knowledge of how comorbidities and physical health care settings affect outcomes for individuals and populations.</b></p>	<p><b>4.1 Health Promotion and Illness Prevention in Individuals and Community</b></p> <p>Demonstrate and apply an understanding of the factors contributing to health inequalities, and the social and cultural determinants of mental health in physical healthcare settings</p> <p>Identify and address/tackle stigma and discrimination against people with mental disorders in physical healthcare settings</p> <p>Promote mental well-being and prevention of mental illness within the context of societal change and technology, effectively working with the interface issues</p> <p>Demonstrate understanding of public health issues related to mental and physical health; work collaboratively with colleagues within physical health disciplines, and other agencies to promote mental well-being and quality of life</p> <p>Engage with patients, families and carers of all ages and the wider community around health promotion and illness prevention, and design and delivery of services, to co-produce a safe and effective treatment plan.</p>
<b>Leadership &amp; Teamworking</b>	<b>5</b> <p><b>Demonstrate effective leadership and team working skills to work constructively and collaboratively within the complex physical and mental health and social care systems, and with other stakeholders.</b></p>	<p><b>5.1 Teamworking</b></p> <p>Show an awareness of how individual personal qualities, emotions and behaviours of both yourself and your team, impact on team working and the quality of patient care</p> <p>Use this awareness to model, educate and adapt the service, including conflict resolution within and between teams</p> <p>Demonstrate a working knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of, and the interface</p>

	<p><b>Supervise and mentor colleagues to enhance their performance and development.</b></p> <p><b>Recognise the impact of leadership across systems and manage partnerships.</b></p>	<p>between multidisciplinary team members</p> <p>Understand team dynamics and use effective negotiation skills to resolve conflict and dysfunction</p> <p>Actively participate and contribute to the work and success of a team, including managing change</p> <p>Work collaboratively with colleagues from diverse backgrounds and experiences, and promote inclusivity</p> <p>Collaborate effectively and actively and develop negotiating skills with medical and surgical colleagues and managers in physical healthcare settings. Be able to work collaboratively and constructively within the complex physical and mental health and social care systems.</p> <p><b>5.2 Leadership</b></p> <p>Recognise and appraise the leadership skills of others in various contexts</p> <p>Demonstrate the development and application of your own leadership skills in a variety of clinical and non-clinical settings</p> <p>Understand how your own leadership style and approach impact on others, and demonstrate an ability to adapt your approach to meet the needs of the team</p> <p>Demonstrate willingness to lead, take charge, and offer opinions and direction</p> <p>Support colleagues to enhance their performance and support their development</p>
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			<p>Display willingness and availability to give clinical supervision to colleagues at all times</p> <p>Demonstrate ability to competently manage and lead a team/service; provide consultation and specialist advice to team members, medical and surgical colleagues and managers in physical healthcare settings, and other agencies.</p>
<b>Patient Safety &amp; Quality Improvement</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Identify, promote and lead activity to improve safety and quality of patient care and clinical outcomes in physical care health settings.</b>	<p><b>6.1 Patient Safety</b></p> <p>Understand the principles of clinical governance, human factors and team dynamics</p> <p>Engage with the systems of clinical governance in both mental health and physical healthcare settings to address concerns relating to the safety of patients with mental health problems in physical healthcare settings</p> <p>Participate in activities that promote reflection and learning from all incidents.</p> <p><b>6.2 Quality Improvement</b></p> <p>Understand how quality improvement can lead to better patient outcomes and system performance</p> <p>Undertake/lead quality improvement activities/initiatives to improve safety, quality of care and clinical outcomes for patients with mental health problems in physical care health settings</p> <p>Work with stakeholders across organisations in quality improvement</p>

			Disseminate findings/implement relevant changes.
<b>Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups</b>	<b>7</b>	<p><b>Lead on the provision of psychiatric assessment and management of those who are identified as being vulnerable in physical health care settings.</b></p> <p><b>Demonstrate advocacy, leadership and collaborative working around vulnerability and use of safeguarding procedures in patients in physical health care settings.</b></p>	<p><b>7.1 Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of the individual and systemic factors contributing to the vulnerabilities and safeguarding concerns in people of all ages</p> <p>Demonstrate advocacy, leadership and collaborative working around vulnerability and use of safeguarding procedures in patients in physical health care settings</p> <p>Demonstrate the ability to include the vulnerable person's views and voice when working within safeguarding processes, taking into account issues relating to capacity</p> <p>Work collaboratively with care networks and partner agencies to safeguard patients and support them in their wider community</p> <p>Advise others on the use of mental health and mental capacity/incapacity legislation in people in physical health care settings</p> <p>Work within legislative frameworks and local processes to anticipate and report safeguarding concerns, providing leadership when necessary</p> <p>Understand the impact of victimisation and trauma in vulnerable groups i.e. trafficking</p> <p>Apply your understanding of how physical health comorbidity contributes to the vulnerabilities and safeguarding concerns in people with mental disorders.</p>
<b>Education &amp; Training</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Promote and lead on the provision of effective education and training in</b>	<p><b>8.1 Education &amp; Training</b></p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of principles and methods of learning, education, teaching and</p>

		<p><b>Liaison Psychiatry in a wide range of settings.</b></p> <p><b>Demonstrate effective supervision and mentoring skills as essential aspects of education to promote safe and effective learning environments.</b></p> <p><b>Promote and participate in interprofessional learning.</b></p>	<p>training, and apply these principles in a variety of clinical and non-clinical settings</p> <p>Understand your own training needs, and pursue your own continuing professional development</p> <p>Provide safe and effective clinical supervision, and mentoring in emergency and non-emergency situations or settings</p> <p>Demonstrate an ability to adapt teaching or training to the needs of particular learners e.g. medical students, colleagues from other specialties including primary care</p> <p>Demonstrate an awareness of the principles of feedback, and be able to implement this knowledge in the giving and receiving of feedback related to your teaching and learning activities</p> <p>Conduct appraisal effectively and at the appropriate time.</p>
<b>Research &amp; Scholarship</b>	<b>9</b>	<p><b>Maintain and apply knowledge of research methodology, critical appraisal and best practice guidance and apply it to your clinical practice.</b></p> <p><b>Disseminate up to date expert knowledge of research literature to patients and stakeholders in appropriate formats.</b></p>	<p><b>9.1 Conducting Research and Critical Appraisal</b></p> <p>Critically evaluate data papers, reviews, and meta-analyses; and implement findings in daily clinical practice</p> <p>Translate research into local clinical practice relevant to liaison psychiatry settings, and disseminate critical appraisal findings to wider communities</p> <p>Demonstrate awareness and knowledge of ethical frameworks when carrying out or appraising research</p> <p>Understand the differences between research, audit, and quality improvement; and how these approaches can complement each other</p>

		<p><b>Understand research and innovation in Liaison Psychiatry following ethical and good governance principles.</b></p> <p>Demonstrate working knowledge of appropriate statistical methods</p> <p>Understands the principles of using Research Study Protocols, and if possible gain first-hand practical experience in helping to conduct an ethically-approved research study</p> <p>Understand the role of and be able to use objective evidenced based clinical assessment instruments.</p>
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