

Training for Two CCTs in Psychiatry

The GMC has agreed that Deaneries may offer higher training programmes that lead to two CCTs if they wish. These dual programmes follow the successful completion of three years of core training.

Before a dual programme can be offered work must be done on identifying overlapping competencies so that the length of the dual programme can be calculated. This has been done for the following combinations:

- General Psychiatry & Psychiatry of Old Age, 4 years;
- General Psychiatry & Medical Psychotherapy, 5 years;
- General Psychiatry & Forensic Psychiatry, 5 years;
- Forensic Psychiatry & Medical Psychotherapy, 5 years ;
- Forensic Psychiatry & Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, 5 years;
- Psychiatry of Learning Disability & Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, 5 years;
- Medical Psychotherapy & Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, 5 years.

FAQs

1. Can trainees do three years in one specialty and then two years in another and apply for two CCTs?

No. trainees who want two CCTs should apply for a dual programme at the beginning of their training.

2. Does appointment to dual programmes have to be competitive?

Yes. All dual programmes should be appointed to via competitive appointment.

3. How should Deaneries deliver the training?

The training can be delivered as separate specialty blocks or can be integrated with the week divided between the specialities. If annual blocks are used the specialties should usually alternate so that experience gained is spread throughout training.

4. How are the ARCPs arranged?

If the training is integrated both specialties should be represented at every ARCP panel. If it is delivered in separate blocks only the relevant specialty has to be represented each year but close liaison is needed between the two TPDs to ensure all competencies are met and both specialties should be represented at the final ARCP. It should also be noted that both assessment blue prints must be completed in their entirety for the award of a CCT in each specialty.

5. What specialty NTN should the trainees use?

The NTN can come from either specialty. The easiest way to ensure that the programme can provide what is needed is to pair up one NTN from each specialty and advertise two posts together.

6. Do trainees apply for the CCTs separately?

No. The Gold Guide states: "Application to GMC for a CCT should only take place when both programmes are complete. The two CCTs should be applied for and awarded on the same date and the expected end of training date for both CCTs therefore becomes the same date."

7. Can a trainee decide to leave training early with only one CCT?

Yes, as long as the Programme Director is satisfied that all competencies have been met for that programme.

8. Do trainees make one portfolio or have two, one for each specialty?

Trainees should have one portfolio to cover their training in the dual programme. It must deliver all of the requirements for both specialties

9. What if a trainee has completed time on a single CCT programme but then moves to a dual programme. Can some of the previous training be counted if it was in one of the specialities?

Yes. Trainees may be able to count time spent in a previous CCT specialty towards their new CCT specialty if the posts they have completed are approved for both specialties. This will be subject to the approval of their Training Programme Director and ARCP Panel who will make an individual decision for each trainee taking into account their knowledge of the dual programme and the trainee's competencies.

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