
Description of network

The College Specialty Advisory Committees (CSAC) are sub-committees of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH).

CSACs have responsibility for monitoring specialty level trainees' progress through their subspecialty training, advising and signing off subspecialty CCTs and the continued development of their sub-specialty curriculum and assessment systems as relevant to the individual subspecialty.

Role details

- The Nephrology CSAC reports to the Training and Quality Board (TQB)
- This CSAC has a Chair, 2 Training Advisors, 1 Assessment Advisor, 1 Quality Advisor and 2 Trainee Representatives (role-share), who form the voting members of the CSAC.
- Each CSAC has been established to supervise the development and delivery of subspecialty training and assessment standards set by the RCPCH in a number of key areas within a GMC recognised training programme.
- To Chair the CSAC for Paediatric Nephrology.
- The Chair is responsible to the Vice President (Training & Assessment).
- Term of Office normally 3 years with option of reappointment for a further 2 years.

Eligibility

Applicants must be a Consultant Paediatrician in Paediatric Nephrology, or SAS doctors with equivalent experience in Nephrology who also have trainer status. Applicants must be either a Fellow, Ordinary Member or Honorary Fellow of the College whose primary mailing address is in the UK/Ireland.

Role purpose and responsibility

The responsibilities of the post holder are:

- Work with key stakeholders¹ to improve and monitor standards of training within the subspecialty.

¹ Key stakeholders will include other members of the CSAC, Officer for Training, Officer for Assessment and staff in the Education and Training Division

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- Advise trainees on aspects of their training and how they may work towards acquiring the necessary competences, ensuring that paediatric trainees have satisfied the training requirements for CCT.
- Consider any issues with paediatric trainees' applications for CCT promptly, in discussion with the Training Advisors prior to the form being signed off.
- To act as the main representative and spokesperson for the Committee when required to do so.
- To represent the Committee at other internal or external meetings of the College or at events held by the College e.g. Policy Conference, Careers Fairs etc.
- To oversee the development/updating of the specialty level assessed competency frameworks and Special Interest (SPIN) Modules within the Subspecialty.
- Ensure training documents and competencies documents for the specialty are regularly updated. This will include review of the Curriculum in line with GMC requirements.
- Review job descriptions for Consultants in the Specialty.
- Evaluate Portfolio Pathway (previously CESR -Certificate of Eligibility to the Specialist Register) applications in a non CCT specialty for entry to the Specialist Register (if the applicant is applying for the subspecialty). Each application has to be assessed independently by two assessors on the CSAC.
- To assess sub-specialty recognition applications (Article 13.5) for applicants already on the Specialist Register for paediatrics, but who wish to add the specialty.
- To liaise with the Assessment Advisor in the co-ordination of scenario writing for the START Assessment and the process of quality assurance of scenarios.
- Assist the Quality and Training Projects team in producing the Annual Specialty Quality report to the GMC by providing relevant information from the subspecialty and submitting the pro-forma as required for this purpose.
- To assist the Sub-Specialty Recruitment Co-ordinator in running the annual recruitment to subspecialty training by providing information on programmes and numbers of posts available and attending the interviews as a member of the panel.
- To Chair meetings of the Committee, ensuring that agenda and dates are planned and agreed as far in advance as possible.
- To devise and deliver a work plan for the Committee that links in with the aims and objectives set out by the RCPCH Corporate Plan.
- Provide formal written reports to the Training and Quality Board, in line with the Committee reporting structure.
- To attend centrally organised induction/training organised by the RCPCH.

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Working relationships

The post holder will work with sub-specialty trainees in Paediatric Nephrology, other members of the CSAC, The Training and Quality Board and the Education and Training Division.

Time commitment

Network members will be required to attend 4x 3 hour meetings per year and devote sufficient time to the role to meet the demands of the job. You may be asked to represent the Committee at other internal or external meetings of the College. Meetings will normally be held by teleconference.

Support provided from the College

The first point of contact will be via the Training and Quality team.

Members will be reimbursed for the cost of travelling expenses (in line with the College's expenses policy) and subsistence to attend College meetings. Remote attendance options may also be offered for some meetings.

Knowledge, skills and experience required

Essential:

- [Member of the College in Good Standing with RCPCH](#)
- Has attended [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training](#) within the last 3 years.
- Works in a consultant post in Paediatric Nephrology.
- Able to demonstrate experience as a clinical and educational supervisor.
- Have detailed, up-to-date knowledge of the requirements of postgraduate training, the regulations involved and the examinations, assessments and appraisals that trainees are required to undertake.
- Excellent communication skills and ability to work well in a team.

Desirable:

- Evidence of professional development in education e.g. Postgraduate Certificate in Education or equivalent
- Able to demonstrate an active involvement in education and training issues and have an appropriate and current working knowledge of educational requirements.
- Contribution to developments in organisation/delivery of education
- Knowledge of committee work
- Awareness of RCPCH structure and function

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Process

Applications for roles should be submitted electronically at [volunteering opportunities](#) no later than the closing date. Your CV should also be uploaded, and we will ask you to include a statement of up to 250 words outlining the relevant experience and reasons for applying to the post.

When undertaking a role at RCPCH all role holders must agree to respect and uphold the charitable objects, vision, and values of the RCPCH and uphold the [code of conduct](#) which embodies of the values that the RCPCH holds the breaking of which could lead to sanction. Core to RCPCH's values is the exemplary behaviour of its members, both as professionals and also as individuals.

Appointed candidates will be asked to [register their interests](#). This is to ensure that personal circumstances that might compromise a volunteer's ability to be seen as acting correctly are properly disclosed.

The role holder must be committed to following the College's safer working practices guidelines when working with children, young people and adults at risk. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, with the role holder required to comply with the College's Safeguarding policy. Appointed candidates must also have attended Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training within the last 3 years.

The College may – at its discretion and with the agreement of the candidates – choose to offer this role as a job-share between more than one candidate once the appointment process is complete. Details will be discussed with candidates at the time should this arise.

The RCPCH wants to represent all the communities we serve and are dedicated to creating an inclusive working environment. The College is particularly keen to receive applications from those who belong to an underrepresented group as defined in the equality act 2010, including age, disability, sex, race, religion or belief, gender reassignment, married or in a civil partnership, pregnancy/parental leave, or sexual orientation.

The College is a disability confident leader, please let us know if you require any reasonable adjustments or accommodations as a result of a disability, impairment or health condition.

Members can also receive support to cover the costs of caring responsibilities, where these responsibilities would otherwise prevent them from undertaking voluntary work for the College, as per the [removing barriers](#) fund. Claims must be submitted using the appropriate form and the College should be made aware of these requests at least a month in advance. For further information please contact edi@rcpch.ac.uk.

Eligible candidates who have the required knowledge, skills and experience may be invited to attend an interview either at the College's Offices or via tele-conferencing. Following the interview, a recommendation will be made to the Network on any appointment.

Personal information about unsuccessful candidates will be held for 6 months after the position has been filled, it will then be securely destroyed. Personal information

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about successful candidates will be retained on their membership file. The information contained in this will be kept secure and will only be used for purposes directly relevant to that person's responsibilities as a committee member. Please also refer to the [membership privacy notice](#) which explains how we will use the data we collect from you.

Dr Jan Dudley
Registrar
2025

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Patron HRH The Princess Royal.