



Bristol GP Education Team

www.bristolgpsolutions.org.uk

'Learning for life, developing the person'

NHS
South West

Directorate of Education – Severn Institute
School of General Practice

Bristol Vocational Training Scheme

10th September 2007

Dear Trainer

Last week we held the three day induction course for registrars. We have a great bunch this year and We're looking forward to working with them. The three days were spent discussing an overview of the year ahead, an outline of the new exam, and a detailed exploration of old and new consultation models. The small groups formed and established working arrangements. They had an opportunity to look at the e-portfolio. It is clear that many questions will arise about workplace-based assessment over the coming weeks, and we will work together with the registrars to resolve issues.

We are writing to introduce ourselves as this year's GP Educators/Course Organisers with responsibility for the GP Registrars. We were waiting to write this letter until the Course organiser posts had been advertised and appointed. There has been a delay so we will introduce the team as it stands currently:

Laura Killingback- Locum course organiser since 2006, currently working with the group of 'February starters'

Holly Hardy- Holly has returned to Bristol after a spell in Manchester where she has been a programme organiser and GP educator for a few years.

Pippa Stables- A member of the GP Education team since 2005, Pippa will now be working with the registrars, or BST 3s we should say.

The Bristol GP Education scheme will now be overseen by Jo Hennessy, with the whole GPE team contributing to event organisation.

Pippa is also an examiner for the College, which is a useful resource for registrars.

This is a year of new beginnings. We have new GP Educators, a new AD, Michael Harris, and a new exam with a new curriculum.

We are not daunted, but very excited. The vocational training scheme in Bristol has been handed over to us in very good order, following a year with record numbers of distinctions and merits in MRCGP passes. In addition we have better than ever frameworks on which to build our educational programme. We also have very experienced enthusiastic and involved leadership from Michael Harris who was a Course Organiser for 15 years and then AD in Bath.

There may be changes in the half day release scheme, but the highly valued group work will remain. Topic-based teaching will evolve gradually in line with the curriculum, offering the GPRs choice. Other changes will reflect the new exam, with more opportunities for skills practice, and discussion about documenting learning in the e-portfolio.

NB From September 2008 the half day release will occur on a Wednesday, and this will be important for trainer and practice timetables.

The Academic Centre, Frenchay Hospital, Frenchay, Bristol BS16 1LE
Telephone: 0117 975 3787



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We will continue to contact trainers at 3 and 6 months.

We aim to facilitate good registrar-led education, instilling the habits of learning for life, and ongoing personal development. Most learning goes on in practices, and we would like to ensure the work we do complements yours, and we would like to hear ideas from you about how to achieve this.

- What do you like about the scheme as it stands and how can we improve?
- Would you like to get involved with teaching registrars in groups on the VTS, perhaps an area of special interest?
- How would you like us to communicate with you? Would you like more newsletters or would you like to invite us to your trainers' workshops?
- Would you like more training events, and if so, on what topics?

We have reconfigured the registrar handbook, which may be of use to you. In particular may we draw your attention to the sections on study leave, and out of hours. These have not changed, but are sometimes contentious.

☐ http://www.bristolgpsolutions.org.uk/registrar_handbook.htm

I hope you have now got e-portfolio access for your registrars. If not, please contact Jonathan Shoebridge in the Severn Institute jonathan.shoebridge@southwest.nhs.uk

If you have any other comments or questions, our e-mail addresses are:

Laura ikillingback@doctors.org.uk

Holly hollydhardy@btinternet.com

Pippa p.stables@mac.com

Yours sincerely

Pippa, Laura and Holly

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