Sponsoring Deanery programme: West of Scotland Deanery
Postgraduate Dean: Prof Alastair McLellan
Responsible Associate Dean/GP Director: Prof Moya H Kelly
Programme Type -
- Deanery-based or National: Deanery
- Specialty or Sub-specialty: General Practice Specialty
Date of GMC recent approval: August 2010
Associated Royal College / Faculty Royal College of General Practitioners
Web address http://www.rcgp.org.uk/
Curriculum and Associated Assessment System http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/postgraduate/gp.asp
Date programme information last updated August 2017

Recognised Programme Locations and Environments
This programme involves placements in Lanarkshire Health Board:
Wishaw General Hospital, Monklands District General Hospital, Hairmyres Hospital

GP Training Practices in Lanarkshire:

Programme Director Dr Laurence Bell
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Programme Description

Why choose this programme?

The hospital posts involve a balanced rotation of specialties that are important for general practice training and Lanarkshire is unique in the UK in having two new state of the art hospitals opened so recently, providing a wide range of services, with the third undergoing extensive modernisation. All three hospitals have fully equipped libraries.

During the hospital placements there will be clinical supervision and educational support from the consultant/clinical team in each hospital.

The GP practices are dispersed throughout the district and vary from new town health centres to rural settings, with educational supervision provided from general practice throughout the programme, and there is support from the local GP adviser team. There is an active educational programme and release to general practice throughout the hospital posts. The training practices deliver high quality training and all practices have a multi-professional team approach to primary care with all team members involved in teaching and supporting the registrars.

Experience in hospital and general practice combine to cover the whole of the GP curriculum and prepare the registrar for Membership of the Royal College of General Practitioners and independent practice.

There are excellent cultural and leisure facilities. South Lanarkshire is a rich mixture of urban and rural, stretching from Glasgow's suburbs south to the open moorland of the Leadhills, via one of Scotland's best-kept secrets, the lush Clyde Valley. This is an area steeped in history and many of the towns in the regions have a range of excellent attractions allowing you to explore their past. The jewel in South Lanarkshire's historical crown is undoubtedly New Lanark, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This 18th-century cotton mill village first built by pioneering social reformer Robert Owen, has been beautifully restored and features an award-winning visitor centre whose interactive displays and rides really brings history to life.

Other popular historical attractions include the Bothwell Castle, Scotland's finest 13th-century fortification, the Museum of Scottish Country Life at Kittochside, near to the new town of East Kilbride, Hamilton's Chatelherault Country Park which has as its centrepiece the magnificent early 18th-century hunting lodge of the Dukes of Hamilton, and the Leadhills and Wanlockhead Steam Railway where visitors can ride on the narrow gauge trains. In fact, the old market town of Biggar is known as Scotland's Museum Town, boasting as it does no fewer than seven rather unusual museums.

Unlike the northern part of the old county of Lanarkshire, the south was never industrialised and the area is liberally dotted with scenic walks and nature trails amidst some of the most dramatic scenery in Lowland Scotland. From just beyond Hamilton, you can join the Clyde Valley Tourist Route, which follows the meandering River Clyde towards Lanark, passing the many garden centres and pick-your-own orchards that are a feature of this fertile area. The scenery is gentle and picturesque, as are the villages with their welcoming pubs. Elsewhere, Chatelherault Country Park is criss-crossed with miles of nature trails leading through 500 acres of woods and the Avon River Gorge while there are excellent riverside walks upstream from New Lanark, including the scenic Falls of Clyde. For something a little different, you can even try panning for gold at Wanlockhead.

Once Scotland's industrial powerhouse, North Lanarkshire's heavy industries are now consigned to history and the area boasts a range of attractions and activity centres well worth exploring. Lanarkshire's coal mines, steelworks and heavy engineering may be gone but they're definitely not forgotten. In fact they're actively celebrated at the Summerlee Heritage Park in Coatbridge, eight miles east of Glasgow, where you can go down a coal mine, ride on a tram or go inside a reconstructed miners' cottage. It also has a hall of working machinery, which clanks and turns all day. The North Calder Heritage Trail starts just by Summerlee and 16 km of purpose-built paths take you past Airdrie to Hillend Reservoir and the Glasgow-Edinburgh cycle route also passes between Coatbridge and Airdrie. Airdrie boasts one of Scotland's three public observatories, part of the town's library in Wellwynd.
Lanarkshire is popular with GP trainees as all programmes are regularly filled, reflecting the enthusiasm and quality of teaching practices and the three district general hospitals. Also, while sub-specialisation in e.g. neonatology, psychogeriatrics, cardiology, respiratory, endocrinology & diabetes and gastroenterology provide good exposure to these areas, we are mindful in Lanarkshire to ensure a broad training background for doctors training to become independent GPs such that they will see a wide range of pathology and gain GP patient experience.

Day-release teaching is organized for ST1GP and ST3 and ST1.2 trainees in hospital posts and ST2 visit their assigned GP practices for educational attachments and educational supervisor ePortfolio review & appraisal. ST1.1 trainees have more recently had educational attachments added to supplement their reviews & appraisals. Exam preparation for Clinical Skills MRCGP is core to ST3 and organised by NES West for November each year. e-learning is encouraged in all posts as is out of programme experience.

Intake will occur in both February and August depending on capacity.

February:
Some three year rotations will be available. In ST1, posts will include 6 months in General Practice with 6 months in General Medicine.

ST2 will include two 6-month hospital posts.

ST3 will be 12 months in General Practice.

August:
3 and 4 year rotations will be available.

ST1 hospital posts include Paediatrics, T&O, Medicine, Medicine for the Elderly, A&E, Surgery and Urology.

ST2 posts range from specialties such as Dermatology, Psychiatry, Paediatrics, O&G, A&E with some new innovative posts being developed in specialties such as sexual health, palliative care and other community facing specialties.

ST3 will be 12 months in General Practice.

*Posts are correct at this point in time however these may change due to unforeseen circumstances.*

For more information on GP Training in the West of Scotland please visit our website [www.westgpst.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.westgpst.scot.nhs.uk)

where more information on Training Practice profiles and locations can be found.

How to apply

[http://www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk)
**Deanery Administrative Contacts**

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