Specialty: General Practice
Ayrshire and Arran

Deanery sponsoring 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 some or all of these Health Boards and hospitals:

Ayrshire and Arran Health Board:
Ayr Hospital, Crosshouse Hospital, Ailsa Hospital, Ayr Hospice

GP Training Practices in Ayrshire and Arran (not all available every year):

Programme Director: Dr. Paul Kerr
Contact: paulokerr@btinternet.com
Programme Description

Why choose this programme?

Sun, Sea and Central to Glasgow
Ayrshire & Arran is an excellent place to train to become a general practitioner. It is a large county with a wide range and mix of urban, mixed and rural practices. We also have a training practice on the island of Arran. Ayrshire is close to Glasgow and trainees may be able to commute from Glasgow with an average commute time of about 45 minutes.

Ayrshire has its own international airport [Glasgow Prestwick International] which allows travel to many parts of the UK, EC and beyond. At good prices!

Ayrshire is a beautiful part of Scotland, close to Glasgow and there are ferry links to Scottish islands and to Northern Ireland.

Ayrshire has many attractions, including 32 golf courses, and many less well known attractions including clay pigeon shooting, archery, horse riding, sailing, motor boat and yacht hire / instruction.

There is also tennis, indoor bowling, go-karting, leisure centres, swimming pools and ice skating, in addition to hill walking, cycling and National Trust properties.

Ayrshire is also ‘Burns’ country’ – the home of Scotland’s national poet, Robert Burns.

For more specific information about Ayrshire and Arran, please see,
http://www.ayrshire-arran.com
http://www.comebacktoayrshire.com/
http://www.active.visitscotland.com/ (South of Scotland)

Nearby Glasgow is a vibrant city with a wide depth of cultural and social experiences.

Program choice

Ayrshire is part of the West Region of NHS Education Scotland.

We have a mix of 3 and 4 year training programs.

From 2017, intake will be in both August and February depending on capacity.

3 and 4 year rotations may be available. Each rotation has 18 months in General Practice.

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

ST2 hospital posts include ENT, Psychiatry, Paediatrics, A&E, Palliative Care, Dermatology and O&G. We are looking to develop posts in community facing Care of the Elderly.

ST3 is 12 months in GP.
Training Support

Once you have chosen to come to Ayrshire and Arran, you will be offered a choice of program linked with an educational supervisor. The choice of which program you are offered will depend upon your scoring in the application process: the highest ranking candidate will have first choice of program, the lowest ranking, the last choice.

Your educational supervisor will be a GP trainer who will supervise your training throughout the 3 or 4 year program. You GP placement will be in the same surgery as your educational supervisor.

You will have a regular 6 monthly appraisal by your educational supervisor and you will be expected to attend the practice for several 'informal' sessions each year.

These informal visits allow trainees to maintain a close mentoring link with their training practice and they allow the trainer and trainee to ensure that good progress is being made regarding RCGP competencies and e-portfolio quality. Educational supervisors in Ayrshire & Arran are very experienced in RCGP and e-portfolio requirements, and we understand and appreciate the effort / expense that trainees put into achieving the required standard.

Learning

GP training and learning has a framework laid out by the RCGP within the RCGP e-portfolio – a web-based educational record/tool set. There is a curriculum to follow and a set of competencies to develop throughout the GP ST program. A key part of the e-portfolio is a log diary of reflective learning to direct an ongoing, dynamic personal development program. Information relating to the e-portfolio and educational goals and methods will all become clearer to you when you start training.

In Ayrshire & Arran we have a well developed day release program and trainee training sessions within Ayrshire and centrally in Glasgow.

Quality

We offer high quality training in Ayrshire & Arran.

We have a large number of committed training practices, all of which provide a high standard of training in all aspects of General Practice, including sexual health, care of the elderly in nursing homes, maternity care (rarely intra partum) and paediatrics which in other areas largely divert to secondary care.

Our trainers’ group regularly meets to continually improve training quality and to crosscheck calibration of our assessments of trainees via the six RCGP assessment tools.

We have the only residential training course in the West of Scotland (provided free) and we also provide a CSA practice day free of charge. This is in addition to our day release programme, utilizing local expertise from primary and secondary care with input from consultants and nurse specialists as well as PAMS/Professions Allied to Medicine.

Out of Hours

Our out of hours training is delivered under the auspices of Ayrshire Doctors on Call [ADOC], using only ADOC-approved GP supervisors who give feedback to trainers on all supervised shifts.

Our Mission

Our efforts are directed towards empowering our trainees to pass the MRCP with ease, and to work independently
within any primary care setting, in or out of hours, with confidence.

In the process, we want all our trainees to enjoy the experience and we hope you will enjoy it so much that you will join us here permanently as board-certified general practitioners post training!

*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

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

**How to apply**

http://www.scotmt.scot.nhs.uk

**Deanery Administrative Contacts**

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