



## **ACCS New Curriculum: Trainee FAQs**

### **1. Introduction of the new ACCS 2021 curriculum**

- Why do we have a new curriculum?
  - ✓ *The GMC brought out new standards for curricula that required a re-write which was also an opportunity to improve on the previous version*
- When does the new curriculum come into force?
  - ✓ *August 2021*
- How was the new curriculum created?
  - ✓ *The Intercollegiate ACCS Committee wrote it with input from a range of key stakeholders*
- Can I choose to stay on the old curriculum?
  - ✓ *All trainees will move to the new curriculum in August 2021; those who are LTFT will finish their current placement on the old curriculum before changing – there may also be an option to move straight to the new curriculum after discussion with local ACCS Lead/TPD*
- Where can I find a copy of the new curriculum?
  - ✓ *The curriculum is hosted on the ACCS website (<http://www.rcoa.ac.uk/media/17576>) as well as the parent specialty websites*

### **2. How the curriculum affects different trainee groups**

- Is the curriculum for all ACCS specialty trainees? Core Anaesthetics trainees? Internal Medicine trainees? Run-through EM trainees?
  - ✓ *All ACCS trainees – Emergency Medicine, Anaesthetics and Acute/Internal Medicine - who are at CT1/ST1 or CT2/ST2 level in August 2021 will move to the new ACCS curriculum*
- Trainees who have completed CT2 rotations in 2021 but do not have IAC?
  - ✓ *The few trainees in this group will also move to the new curriculum whilst being able to achieve the missing capabilities (see also Section 6 COVID)*
- Trainees on maternity or paternity leave?
  - ✓ *Will finish their current placement on the 2015 curriculum when they resume work then move to the new 2021 curriculum – there may also be an option to resume on the 2021 curriculum after discussion with local ACCS Lead/TPD*

### 3. Curriculum overview

- Will the length of ACCS training stay the same?
  - ✓ *Core ACCS training remains two years, following which the trainee joins their parent specialty; total training length for all parent specialties is unchanged*
- Will the ACCS specialty rotations be the same?
  - ✓ *The four ACCS placements are unchanged – Emergency Medicine, Internal (Acute) Medicine, Anaesthetics, Intensive Care*
- Will six months of ICU be mandatory?
  - ✓ *Yes – all placements will be six months WTE duration*
- What is new?
  - ✓ *The new curriculum replaces the Major, Acute and Common Competences and the Practical Procedures with 11 **ACCS Learning Outcomes** each of which have two or three Key Capabilities defined*
  - ✓ *Assessment is now anchored to degree of independence for each of the Key Capabilities – this is known as **entrustment***
  - ✓ *The “tick-box” approach to assessment has gone*
  - ✓ *There is now an emphasis on **panel-based judgements** (Multi-Consultant/Trainer Reports and Faculty Educational Governance Statements) where supervisors collate the opinions of senior trainers and award an entrustment level for each Learning Outcome*

### 4. Portfolio and assessment

- Will there be a new portfolio?
  - ✓ *For August 2021 there is a new e-portfolio for Emergency Medicine (Kaizen) and for ACCS Anaesthetics trainees (LLP)*
- Will the WPBAs on my current portfolio link to the new curriculum?
  - ✓ *The exact functionality of the different e-portfolios varies, however all the assessments and other evidence from CT1/ST1 will still be available for ACCS trainees entering CT2/ST2 in August 2021*
- How will I evidence my training and progression against the new curriculum?
  - ✓ *Trainees will generate mini-portfolios of evidence for each of the eleven ACCS Learning Outcomes; these will consist of a combination of WPBAs, panel-based judgements (MCR/MTR/FEG), e-learning, courses, reflections etc.*
- Is there a minimum number of WPBAs that I must undertake?
  - ✓ *No - there is no longer a minimum number, trainees simply need to provide sufficient evidence against each Learning Outcome and this will vary depending on previous experience/achievement and the type of evidence; it is important for trainees to work with their supervisors to develop the necessary evidence*
- Will the ARCP requirements change?
  - ✓ *Trainees must achieve a defined minimum entrustment level for the clinical Learning Outcomes and minimum progress level for the Generic Learning Outcomes - new ARCP Decision Aids include checklists that set out exactly what is required*

- When and where will the ARCP checklists be available?
  - ✓ *These will be hosted on the ACCS website (<https://www.rcoa.ac.uk/media/21056>) as well as the parent specialty websites*
- Can my Deanery add additional sign-off items to ARCP?
  - ✓ *No - the curriculum sets out the minimum requirements which cannot be amended locally*

## 5. Supervision

- Will I still receive the same education and clinical supervision?
  - ✓ *Yes - the new curriculum does not require any changes to supervision arrangements (provided these comply with existing national standards)*
- Will my supervisors receive training on the new curriculum and forms of assessment?
  - ✓ *Yes - training, resources and events have been available to trainers as well as trainees, and local ACCS Leads/TPDs are supporting supervisors in getting up to speed with all the changes*

## 6. COVID

- I was redeployed during COVID, can I count this experience towards my training?
  - ✓ *If redeployment or amended duties affected training significantly this will be reflected in ARCP outcomes; overall all four ACCS placements still need to be undertaken but there is scope for trainees to progress even if they did not complete the full six months WTE in each one*
- I was awarded a COVID outcome 10.1 at my last ARCP, how will this affect my transition onto the new curriculum?
  - ✓ *ACCS trainees awarded Outcome 10.1 at last ARCP will still move to the new curriculum, their PDP should reflect any gaps in capability identified as being due to COVID disruption for them to focus on in the coming year*
- I was awarded a COVID outcome 10.2 at my last ARCP, how will this affect my transition onto the new curriculum?
  - ✓ *ACCS trainees awarded Outcome 10.2 at last ARCP will still move to the new curriculum in August 2021; their ACCS Lead/TPD and Educational Supervisor will work with them to ensure they are able to acquire the necessary capabilities as quickly as possible*

## 7. Transition

- I am currently a CT1, what do I need to do to prepare for the new curriculum in August?
  - ✓ *Current CT1/ST1 trainees should ensure they are familiar with the new 2021 curriculum (see resources below also) and that they update their PDP*
  - ✓ *CT1/ST1s should arrange to meet with their Educational Supervisor in July to start to plan the transition and again in early August to update*

*their e-portfolios; there is clear guidance on how to map the experience gained in CT1/ST1 to the new Learning Outcomes and there is no requirement to repeat any elements of training*

- ✓ *On commencing new placements in August they should also meet with their Clinical Supervisor and go through the curricular requirements to agree what needs achieving during the placement*

## **8. Further Support**

- How can I find out more?
  - ✓ *The ACCS website (<https://www.accs.ac.uk/accs/2021-curriculum>) has links to a range of resources including podcasts, videos, supporting documents and upcoming live events*
  - ✓ *The RCEM website (<https://rcemcurriculum.co.uk/>) also has information specific for EM trainees*
  - ✓ *There is a Trainees Curriculum Webinar scheduled for June 2021 – see ACCS website for details as they are confirmed*
  - ✓ *Your ACCS Lead/TPD and Educational Supervisor are available to support you*

***Information provided by the Intercollegiate ACCS Committee (ICACCST) 6/5/21***