

## Regional Advisers Anaesthesia (RAAs) Job Description

RAAs are senior College representatives. Their role involves all aspects of College work; clinical quality and standards, communications, lifelong learning.

- 1. Communications:** To represent the views of the College in all relevant matters within their School and region.
  - liaising with and responding to requests from Council, President, Vice-Presidents, Chairs of Committees and members of RCoA staff
  - disseminating information from the RCoA
  - gathering local information on behalf of RCoA ;
  - reporting when professional problems not resolved at a local level
  - providing, or asking others to provide, guidance for professional development of anaesthetists of all grades.
- 2. Training and Lifelong Learning:** To work with, and advise all stakeholders in training and education within the School and region, and lead in quality management of training.
  - Developing effective working relationships and close liaison with Postgraduate Deans (or equivalent) to provide best conditions for trainees and trainers.
  - Taking a lead in quality management of training, advising the PG Dean, TPDs or Heads of School on curriculum delivery, and College policy.
  - Knowledge and understanding of the CCT curriculum, the Gold Guide and College policy relating to training.
  - Adhering to GMC criteria for recognition of training posts/ locations and approval of training programmes and hospital training environments.
  - Working with the evolving new structures associated with the new JD contract, and reconfiguration of services.
  - Making efforts to be aware of strengths and weaknesses of training in individual hospitals; resolving problems at local level in partnership with the PG Dean, TPDs or Head of School.
  - Active participation in local School of Anaesthesia, quality visits and wider quality initiatives as outlined in the publication 'A Reference Guide for Postgraduate Specialty Training in the UK – February 2016' (The Gold Guide).
  - Submission of annual structured report on training in their region, to the Training Committee, to inform the College Annual Specialty Report to the GMC.
  - Reporting to Training Dept on outcomes of any quality visits/ meetings/ panels undertaken in conjunction with the deanery/LETB/training board. See [RCoA Guidance on external visits](#).
  - Overseeing assessment and guidance of trainees (in general, responsibility of College Tutors and Educational Supervisors) ensuring that their Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) is carried out at least annually and in accordance with the Gold Guide.
  - Involvement in recruitment for trainees at all levels, and awareness of local workforce planning and policy.
  - Nurturing good practice and innovation in delivery, coordination or achievement of quality anaesthetic training.
  - Advising on continuing education to ensure competence to practise, and advising on revalidation issues for anaesthetists.
  - Support for, and collaboration with College Tutors, Deputy RAAs, RAs in Pain Medicine, and ICM. Leading and coordinating the process of appointment of Deputy RAAs and College Tutors in accordance with College procedures.
  - Support to MTI posts. RAAs should be aware of MTI placements and may comment on the post's suitability, and the numbers of MTIs allocated. Their training should be overseen and quality managed as for other trainees.

3. **Clinical quality:** to maintain good standards of anaesthetic clinical practice.
- Providing input into the RCoA Anaesthetic Clinical Standards Accreditation (ACSA) process. RAAs should be notified of any ACSA visiting process taking place in their region, and can offer relevant local information to the visiting team.
  - Providing appropriate intelligence to RCoA invited reviews (Anaesthetic Review Team (ART)) within the region.
  - Providing specialist anaesthetic advice to service reconfiguration.
  - Advising and participating in preparation and review of job plans for all career grade posts in anaesthesia. Ensuring that posts provide scope and conditions to maintain standards of practice, training and patient care/safety. College processes should be followed, [as defined here](#).
  - Serving on Advisory Appointment Committees (AAC) for Consultant and SAS/SD grade posts.
  - Nomination of suitably experienced anaesthetists to the AAC Department, for training to undertake AACs.
  - Serving as External Adviser outside region for invited Deanery/hospital visits or ARCP's. (provides externality for inviting Deanery, and offers useful experience to RAA).
  - Supporting development and maintenance of a network of active and engaged RCoA Clinical leads e.g. Quality Audit and Research Co-ordinators (QuARCs), Perioperative Medicine Leads, Safety Leads, Airway Leads etc.

## Meetings

RAAs should attend the national RAA's meeting held annually, usually in November at RCoA London. Lead RAAs arrange the programme with input from all RAAs as offered.

5 CPD points are given; content of the meeting should satisfy aspects of educational appraisal. Expenses for travel to London will be met for one representative, usually the RAA. (If RAA is unable to attend, the DRAA may claim expenses).

RAAs should try to attend annual RCoA College Tutors meeting, in June. The educational programme with nationally renowned speakers, offers CPD points. RAAs have a breakout session, and meet other trainers socially. Attendance and expenses should be claimed from Trusts as Study Leave.

The RCoA also holds regional forums for RAAs, TPDs and HoSs. Members of the RCoA training team, and a Council member travel to regions and RAAs from surrounding regions are invited. Expenses for local activities supporting training should be met by Trusts or the Deanery.

RAAs also encouraged to attend meetings with other stakeholders such as the Clinical Directors' network.