

Royal Free

Health Education North Central and East London The Royal Free GP Specialty Training Programme 2022

Programme Description

The Royal Free Specialty Training Programme (GPSTP) offers around 20 postgraduate training programmes each year for future general practitioners. Training is for three years and the first two years (ST1 & ST2) consist of 4x6m posts in rotation. Two of these posts are based in general practice and two within secondary care, mainly at the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust and its associated sites. Year three (ST3) is spent fully in general practice. An educational half-day release programme takes place on Wednesday afternoons for trainees in all three years of the programme

Location

[The Royal Free Hospital](#) is one of London's major teaching hospitals and also provides general hospital facilities to its local population. It has around 900 beds and provides one of the three main teaching campuses for UCL Medical School. The main hospital site is in Hampstead, London NW3. The hospital is renowned in many areas of research, teaching and clinical care including Liver, Kidney and Bone Marrow transplantation, Renal, HIV, Infectious Diseases, Plastic Surgery, Immunology and Paediatric Gastroenterology. It is a leading cancer centre with a range of specialist diagnostic and treatment services in Oncology and Haematology and a major Neuroscience base with a network extending throughout North London and the Home Counties. The Royal Free GPSTP works closely with North Central London Clinical Commissioning Groups, Primary Care Networks, Learning Hubs and a large group of experienced and committed training practices across North Central London.

Posts

Exact ST1/2 rotations will vary each year depending on posts available but will include two posts from the following list of specialties: *Paediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, A&E, ENT, Ophthalmology, Trauma & Orthopaedics, Rheumatology/ Dermatology, Neurology/Stroke medicine, Palliative medicine, Dermatology, Elderly medicine, Diabetes/Endocrinology, Infectious Diseases/HIV, Public Health.*

Most hospital posts are based at the Royal Free except ENT (Barnet/Royal Free), Psychiatry (Camden & Islington Mental Health Trust), Public Health (Islington CCG), Palliative Medicine (Eden Hall Hospice).

We also offer one Innovative Training Post (ITP) in Medical Education which will actively involve trainees in medical student teaching in general practice – and count as a “GP+” post in ST1/2 (see below).

“GP+” posts

During ST1/2 all trainees will have the opportunity to include a special interest “GP+” attachment for 2-4 sessions per week during their second 6m GP training post. A

range of pre-approved GP+ attachments will be available to apply for internally subject to availability each year.

ST3 posts

Year three (ST3) will be based in an approved local training practice. ST3 practice allocations will be made following a trainer/trainee matching process during year two.

Precise combinations of posts are to be finalised by HEE and will not be available prior to offers. Successful candidates will have the opportunity to rank their rotation preferences following offer of appointment. Candidates who score higher at selection will have a higher chance of gaining their preferred London training scheme and preferred combination of posts. Please note that allocation of programmes and rotations is managed entirely centrally by HEE and therefore any queries regarding 2022 post combinations should be directed to the HEE support portal at: <https://lasepgmdsupport.hee.nhs.uk/support/home>. NB GP+ attachments are not pre-allocated but applied for within programme.

Job descriptions for individual posts are available from Royal Free Hospital HR Department via rf.leademployerservice@nhs.net. All posts and all rotations are pre-approved for GP training. All rotations are balanced in terms of experience required by RCGP/GMC.

Posts cannot be swapped once rotations have been accepted, and HEE take the view that it is not educationally disadvantageous for GP trainees to repeat one or more hospital specialties already experienced during previous training.

Academic Clinical Fellowships

A small number of our rotations each year are allocated as Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs) in Primary Care. ACF programmes provide clinical training in general practice combined with training in academic primary care (research and teaching), over a four-year period. There is a separate national application process for ACF posts (see <https://gprecruitment.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Academic>).

Deferrals and Accreditation of Transferable Competencies (ATC)

Successful applicants may if they wish apply via the [HEE support portal](#) to defer entry to GP training on non-statutory grounds for six or twelve months. See <https://gprecruitment.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Deferment>

Applicants who are currently training in another specialty and would like to transfer to a GP training programme, may be eligible to apply via HEE for a six month reduction in the duration of hospital based GP training under the Accreditation of Transferable Competencies Framework (ATCF). See: <https://www.rcgp.org.uk/training-exams/discover-general-practice/qualifying-as-a-gp-in-the-nhs/atcf.aspx>

Educational Activities

Throughout the three-year programme Royal Free GP trainees meet every Wednesday afternoon during academic term time for half-day educational release. The programme normally takes place on the Royal Free campus but is currently run remotely. It aims to provide a broad range of educational sessions and if possible at least one away day (optionally residential) course in each academic year. The topics for half day release sessions are largely self-selected by the GP trainees themselves

and the Programme Directors also enhance the learning experience with carefully chosen topics aimed at broader aspects of the GP curriculum e.g. inter-professional learning, Clinical Skills Assessment (CSA), and GP simulation days. Each hospital post also has its own specialty related educational activities.

The Royal Free training programme is also closely linked to UCL Medical School's academic Department of Primary Care and Population Health (PCPH which can offer opportunities for interested trainees to take part in undergraduate teaching both in hospital and in general practice.

Less than Full Time Training

Any trainee offered or in a substantive HEE approved training post can apply for less than full time training (LTFT) if they meet the eligibility criteria. Full details can be found here:

<https://lasepgmdsupport.hee.nhs.uk/support/solutions/7000006974>

All LTFT applications and queries are managed via the [HEE support portal](#)

Global Health Fellowships

GP Trainees in London can apply for a small number of one-year Clinical Fellowships in Global Health (GHF) in developing countries. If approved these posts are taken as Time out of Programme Experience (OOPE) between ST2 and ST3. Further details at: <https://london.hee.nhs.uk/global-health-fellowships-time-out-programme-oope>

Royal Free GP Training Programme Directors

- Dr Vik Dave
- Dr Marcus Lewis
- Prof Joe Rosenthal (for hospital posts and academic programmes)
- Our Trainers' Workshop Convenor (leading on practice allocations is Dr Jonathan Sheldon

Application process and queries

For general GP training and recruitment information see national details at: <https://gprecruitment.hee.nhs.uk/>

For information on Academic Clinical Fellowships see: <https://gprecruitment.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Academic>

For information on applying to GP training in London see: <https://gprecruitment.hee.nhs.uk/recruitment/letbs-deaneries/lr>

For all general queries on *GP training and recruitment in London* (including deferrals, shortened programmes via ATC, Less than full time training and content of rotations

please contact the HEE support portal via:

<https://lasepgmdesupport.hee.nhs.uk/support/home>.

For Royal Free specific queries (only) email: royalfreegpsts@gmail.com