

Trainee Update May 2014

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Acute Medicine Awareness Week (AMAW) 14-20 July

You may have seen in the Springspring newsletter that there was a plan to do a “virtual marathon” from Edinburgh to Brighton for this year’s AMAW using a GPS tracker App. However, this has now been changed back to same format as in previous years but you can arrange any event you like from parachute jumping to a cake stall. In order to register your AMAW event contact SAM via communications@acutemedicine.org.uk.

This year there is also an extra incentive for trainees as there is a chance to win a place at the European Federation of Internal Medicine (EFIM) winter school in Latvia!

EFIM winter and summer schools

SAM is currently a member society of EFIM, which runs the European School of Internal Medicine winter and summer schools. These were set up to provide education for “young internists” from member societies, and to provide cultural and social links. They operate around a five day format of talks and workshops with plenty of socialising. The word from the SAM president is that trainees attending the schools will have a blast!

As a member society, SAM is offering the chance to win one of two funded places for the next winter and summer schools. In order to win a place at the next winter school (which will be held in Riga, Latvia in 2015) SAM trainee members need to organise something for AMAW 2014, and provide evidence

that they have done so. Any trainees participating in this way will be entered into a draw to win a place. The places at the next summer school will be offered to the best trainee presentations at SAM Brighton. Winners of places at the schools will be asked to write a report about their experience.

In addition to the chance to win a place at one of the schools, SAM members can also register for free on the EFIM website to access the European Journal of Internal Medicine.

New website

SAM will shortly be launching its new website. Once the new website goes live we will be updating the trainee information. This will include more up to date information on the specialist skills including the recently added diabetes and intensive care medicine curricula. If there is anything else you would like to see on the trainee section of the website please feel free to contact us.

Workplace Based Assessment (WPBA)

You should be aware that from August 2014 the requirements for workplace based assessments are changing. This is in response to widespread criticism that WPBAs are just a tick box exercise and do little to identify or support a struggling doctor. From August there will be a defined number of Supervised Learning Events (mini CEX, CbD and ACAT) but the idea of introducing summative Assessments of Performance will not go ahead. Supervised Learning Events are formative assessments and

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there is more emphasis on the trainee using these to explore different areas of the curriculum. Trainees can use this as evidence to demonstrate that they have achieved competence, and the portfolio sampled by the educational supervisor to produce the educational supervisor report which will be key in assessing engagement with the e-portfolio. This is to try to avoid the scenario of simply ticking through a list of curriculum items. Detailed guidance and updated ARCP decision aids will be available from JRCPTB and within the e-portfolio prior to August.

Speciality Certificate Examination and revision course

After the success of last year's course there will be a Speciality Certificate Examination (SCE) revision course running on the day before the SAM Brighton conference. For those planning to take the examination this year you should be aware that from this year the pass mark will be referenced to UK candidates only. Based on the data from previous exam diets this is anticipated to raise the pass mark so start revising early. Guidelines are a useful resource and there is some information on the website regarding the exam.

SAMsterdam

SAMsterdam is behind us now. A good number of trainees made it to Amsterdam and were treated to a great mix of talks, posters, networking and socialising opportunities. There was no dedicated

trainee session at SAMsterdam due to the tightly packed programme and space. However, this will return at SAM Brighton.

SAM Brighton

The trainee session at SAM Brighton is going to be "A Journey Through Training" and will look at everything you need to know to successfully get through training from getting to grips with the e-portfolio, choosing your specialist skill, and preparing for your penultimate year assessment and consultant interview so there should be something of interest to everyone. There will also be an opportunity to discuss any areas of concern regarding training in Acute Medicine. Also don't forget to get your abstracts in to be in with a chance of winning a place to the EFIM summer school if you get chosen to do a presentation!

Become a SAM trainee representative!

The tenure of a SAM trainee representative is two years and mine is nearing the end so there will be a call for nominations for a new trainee rep prior to SAM Brighton. If you are interested I would encourage you to stand for election as it gives a fascinating insight into the development of the speciality through attending the Council and other meetings. Feel free to email us to find out more about what is involved.

We very much hope to see you all at SAM Brighton.