



The Royal College of Pathologists

Pathology: the science behind the cure

Chemical Pathology – clarification of examination regulations and completion of curriculum stages for Chemical Pathology and Chemical Pathology (Metabolic Medicine) trainees

One of the requirements of the 2010 Chemical Pathology curriculum is that all Specialty Registrars (StRs) must pass the FRCPATH Part 1 and FRCPATH Part 2 examination in order to be eligible for the award of the Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT).

It is expected that trainees will normally have passed the FRCPATH Part 1 examination by the end of ST3(5). Trainees who have not passed the FRCPATH Part 1 examination by the end of ST3(5) will be prevented from progressing to Stage C of training. This may result in an extension to training through the ARCP process.

Trainees must pass the FRCPATH Part 2 examination by the end of ST4(6). Trainees who have not passed the FRCPATH Part 2 examination by the end of ST4(6) will be prevented from progressing to Stage D of training. Trainees will be allowed to progress to Stage D if their written project (an existing element required to achieve FRCPATH) has been submitted to the College and will be complete within the first six months of Stage D. Where the project is considered of such poor quality to require significant additional work or re-write, it will need to be re-submitted and approved before Stage C can be considered complete.

It should be noted that proposals for the FRCPATH Part 2 written project can be submitted to the Examinations Department at any time, including prior to attempting the FRCPATH Part 1 examination. Work on the project can begin as soon as the project proposal has been approved.

Stage D is a compulsory 12-month period of training, after successful completion of which, a CCT may be awarded.

Trainees may apply for consultant posts on the basis that they have no more than 6 months of training left before their expected CCT date at the time of interview.

[Examination regulations and guidelines](#) and guidance about [FRCPATH Part 2 projects](#) are available on the College website.

Any queries with regard to this guidance should be sent in the first instance to:

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