



Histopathology – length of training and setting of the provisional CCT date

The 2010 and 2015 Histopathology curricula currently state: *'The Royal College of Pathologists anticipates that 5 years and 6 months would normally be required to satisfactorily complete the histopathology curriculum to the required depth and breadth, including two of the available optional packages of additional training described below, and achieve a CCT or CESR(CP).'*

Currently, when trainees register with the College their provisional CCT date is set on the assumption that they will be undertaking two out of the three optional training packages, which are three months each plus the minimum histopathology training time of five years. Trainees are asked to confirm at a later stage in their training about the number of optional packages that they will undertake in order that an accurate provisional CCT date can be confirmed.

However there is confusion about when trainees can opt in and opt out of the optional training modules and trainees do not always have a CCT date that accurately reflects their training.

Therefore, it is proposed that trainees entering ST1 in August 2016 and beyond will have their provisional CCT date set at the minimum training time of five years when they register with the College at the beginning of their training.

As the optional training packages are available in Stage C or D, if the trainee subsequently wishes to undertake any of the optional training packages (higher autopsy training, cervical cytopathology or research methodology), this will then be agreed locally at the ARCP at the appropriate time (normally after they have received an ARCP outcome 1 for Stage B).

Once the trainee has agreed any optional training modules locally with the LETB/Deanery and their Educational Supervisor, they should then directly inform the College so that their provisional CCT date can be revised accordingly.

Existing trainees will not have their CCT dates reviewed but are asked to contact the Training Department if they require clarification about their CCT date.

Any queries with regard to this guidance should be sent in the first instance to: Jenny Maddocks Training Manager, email: jenny.maddocks@rcpath.org

