

## **Guidance from the T&O SAC on the New T&O Curriculum: clarification of the transition rules.**

One consequence of having different Training Programme start dates (August and October) across the UK relates to the impact of a standardised new curriculum implementation date. When we planned the new curriculum launch for 2020, the SAC pressed for implementation dates to vary according to programme start date and for the transition period to, as previously permitted, extend to two years for all trainees. Given that new curricula were to be launched across more than sixty medical specialties, the GMC decided that there should be a single implementation date for all, and that, when the impact of Covid-19 was taken into account, this should be August 2021.

The updated GMC policy statement: *Transition of learners to a new curriculum* (May 2021), allowed a greater degree of flexibility and this was reflected in the advice subsequently provided on the ISCP website. As the August launch date loomed it became apparent that this advice was open to varied interpretation and as a result, unequivocal guidance (summarised below) has now been established and disseminated to all stakeholders.

Whilst not providing a two-year transition period for all trainees, such a period is allowed for some trainees nearing completion of training, other senior trainees may remain on the old curriculum, and to the relief of many, different programme start dates can now be accommodated. Albeit slightly belated (for which the understanding of all stakeholders is appreciated) this new guidance should provide the clarity necessary for a smooth transition.

## The new T&O curriculum: Transition rules and guidance\*.

The rules relating to transition to the new curriculum can be summarised according to when during the year the trainee moves to the next stage of training, this being defined by the creation of a new Learning Agreement.

\* This guidance refers specifically to the situation that applied in August 2021

### Post change in August 2021:

Starting ST8	May stay on the old curriculum. Can change if desired but should be given approval from the TPD. Most are expected to remain on the old curriculum
Starting ST7	Should transition in August 2021
Starting ST4-6	Should transition in August 2021
Starting ST3	Will start on the new curriculum.

### Next post change after August 2021 but before August 2022 (e.g. Oct 21, Feb 22)

Moving to ST8	May stay on the old curriculum. Can change if desired but should be given approval from the TPD. Most are expected to remain on the old curriculum.
Moving to ST7	Should remain on the old curriculum initially but should transition at the post change from ST6 to ST7.
Moving to ST4-ST6	Should remain on the old curriculum initially but should transition at the next post change (e.g. from ST4 to ST5)
Starting ST3	Will start on the new curriculum.

### LTFT & OOP trainees

ST8	May stay on the old curriculum. Can change if desired but should be given approval from the TPD. Most are expected to remain on the old curriculum.
ST4-7	Should remain on the old curriculum initially, but should transition at the next post change (e.g. from ST4 to ST5)