

## Combined Training

### Appeal Process Guidance

It may be possible for an ARCP panel to agree that progress in ST1 is satisfactory but that either the previous experience cannot contribute to the training programme, or that less time than the trainee expected can contribute. The trainee has the right to appeal this decision. This guidance outlines the appeal process.

#### Authority

Currently the process for approving capabilities and competencies and sufficiency of alternative evidence to combine with specialty training programmes for ATC and CCT (CP) is that the RCGP (having governance responsibility for specialty training programme curricula) delegates that assessment to ARCP panels in the local education teams (“deaneries”) where the curriculum and specialty training programme is implemented.

The ARCP panel may decide that although progress through the training programme has been satisfactory (normally an Outcome 1), there is not sufficient supporting information and alternative evidence to allow other experience to contribute to the training programme to enable it to be completed in less than three years.

#### Gold Guide

Currently there is no formal defined appeal process for trainees who have applied for a combined training programme as the Gold Guide is specific in describing appeals against ARCP outcomes or processes described in the Gold Guide (GG8: 4.155 – 4.180).

There are plans to add some detail on an appeal process for ATC and CCT(CP) to Gold Guide 9. The principles of the appeal process set out in Gold Guide do apply to other aspects of specialty training and it would be reasonable to apply these principles in these circumstances until the Gold Guide is updated.

#### Appeal Process

- Trainees should receive an ARCP Outcome letter with the ARCP panel decisions in relation to the progression outcome (O1-6 or O10.1/2) and in relation to assessment of sufficiency of evidence to combine with their GP training programme
- The letter should advise them of the right of appeal
- Trainees can request a review of an Outcome 2 and appeal of Outcomes 3 & 4 as normal
- They may also request an appeal of the decision in relation to the amount of time the panel agrees can contribute to the GP training programme through the same process and subject to the same timescale (i.e. appeal request within 10 working days of the decision GG8:4.167).
- The appeal process should follow step 1- initial review (GG8: 4.169) proceeding to step 2 - full appeal hearing (GG8: 4.173) where appropriate
- The appeal hearing should be conducted in accordance with the ARCP Appeal SOP relevant to the Statutory Education Body (SEB) responsible for the trainee.