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| Newsletter – Issue 5November 2022 |  |
| **To Heads of School, Training Programme Directors,** **Regional Education Advisors and Representatives, College Tutors, Educational and Clinical Supervisors, all Trainers and all Trainee Ophthalmologists**  |  |
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**Update from the Curriculum 2024 Project Team**

The Curriculum 2024 Project Board and ePortfolio Steering Group, chaired by Mr Vikas Chadha and Mr Alan Cunningham respectively, have been meeting regularly since the GMC provisionally approved the curriculum in March 2022. The following activities have been instigated:

1. **Curriculum Transition Checklists (CTCs)** The first CTCs were disseminated to all Educational Supervisors and ST1-3 trainees (who will be in ST4-6 when the new curriculum begins in August 2024) for completion by 30 June 2022. The purposes of the CTCs are to provide a benchmark of achievement in preparation for transfer to the new curriculum in August 2024 and identify any gaps in training. Two new CTCs on Level 3 Community Ophthalmology and Urgent Eye Care are now available on the Curriculum 2024 webpage ([Implementation Note No 4](https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/training/ophthalmic-specialist-training/ost-curriculum/curriculum-2024/implementation-notes/)).
2. **Assessment Pilot** The pilot began on 18 July and finished on 14 November 2022. Six deaneries took part and we are truly grateful for the time and commitment shown by those who completed one or more of the three new assessments. We exceeded our target expectations in terms of forms and surveys completed by both supervisors and trainees. Certificates have been sent to those who asked for them.
3. **New ePortfolio** We are delighted to announce that, following a rigorous selection process, the RCOphth has signed a contract with FourteenFish and that work has already started on developing the new ePortfolio. FourteenFish supply the RCGP’s trainee ePortfolio, and successfully moved all trainees and curricula onto their platform during the pandemic, so they have a wealth of experience and knowledge of postgraduate medical education. Rather than building an ePortfolio from scratch, we will be working with FourteenFish to customize their existing templates and workflows. So we will be looking for volunteers, both trainees and supervisors, to undertake various tasks at key points to test the functionality of the ePortfolio.  We intend to begin a full pilot of the new curriculum in August 2023.
4. **CESR** We have agreed a position statement with the GMC on the guidance to be given to CESR applicants in relation to the new curriculum which is now on the [RCOphth website](https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/CESR-statement-post-GMC.pdf). We hope that this guidance will help CESR applicants decide when they would like to submit their applications to the GMC.
5. **Curriculum 2024 webpage** The [website](https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/training/ophthalmic-specialist-training/ost-curriculum/curriculum-2024/) has been revamped to include all curriculum documentation, links to FAQs, news and resources. Please do have a look if you have not done so already.
6. **Transition Progression Requirements** The statement, which is [Implementation Note](https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/training/ophthalmic-specialist-training/ost-curriculum/curriculum-2024/implementation-notes/) No 3 on the website, describes the progression between the levels and the use of Outcome 1 as part of the guidance for the transition to Curriculum 2024. The statement is intended to help trainees and trainers to understand the progression requirements for transition to the new training levels on 1 August 2024.
7. **Level 1-3 and Level 4** Intensive work is being carried out with TPDs and Heads of School on how the new curriculum will be managed in each region. Guidance on Level 1-3 and Level 4 has been developed to help those who manage training plan future rotations.
8. **Webinars** We held two very successful webinars in April 2022 (see [here](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/n_pqazazn19YKzHxksJ9gbFm5BWIrjj5XnJnW3uhxFCpfvtrDM44YJGt0npX7RGB.GfDkVN6iZydr5BmA) for a link to the video recording), followed by two lunchtime sessions at the May Congress.

Continue to prepare for Curriculum 2024

In the meantime, please continue to prepare for the change.

* Familiarise yourself with the draft new curriculum through the website <https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/training/ophthalmic-specialist-training/ost-curriculum/curriculum-2024/>
* All trainee ophthalmologists are strongly encouraged to acquire general competences as early as possible in their training over the next couple of years (equating to Levels 1-3 of the new curriculum).
* Trainee ophthalmologists should make plans to sit the final examinations by the end of ST5 or middle of ST6 year. This will allow a smoother transition to the new curriculum in 2024.
* Please sign up to at least one of the sessions being organised to introduce you to the changes – these could include sessions in the RCOphth Congress at Birmingham and locally organised sessions by your TPD/Head of School/College Tutors.
* Take part in future pilot exercises when invited to do so.

Should you require further information, please send your query to curriculum2024@rcophth.ac.uk .

Yours sincerely,

 

**Ms Sarah Maling FRCOphth Dr Vikas Chadha FRCOphth**

*Chair – Training Committee Chair – Curriculum Sub-committee*



**Mr Hasan Naveed**

*Chair – Ophthalmologists in Training Group (OTG)*