

Shaping the Future Direction of Training and RCEM's Response to COVID-19 Chat responses

If we're taking the CLA this September, are we required to do a portfolio as well?

If you are FTE trainee due to CCT before August 2022 (or LTFT due to CCT by August 2023), you can remain on the 2015 curriculum and no additional evidence of critical appraisal is required. If you are due to CCT after August 2022 you will be required to show how you have continued to develop in this Specialty Learning Outcome. Details on how trainees can evidence this are to follow.

What does it mean by QIP with portfolio replacement? What exactly we will need in eportfolio?

A pass in the FRCM Final QIP examination will be accepted for completion of training until July 2028 without additional evidence

If a trainee has not successfully completed the examination by Summer 2021, they will be required to demonstrate successful completion of the programme of assessment described in SLO 11 of the new curriculum in that you will need to describe your involvement in QIP in that training year, using the new EM Quality Improvement Project Assessment Tool (QIPAT). You will need to be involved in QI work in each year of training. All work completed for the current QIP examination would still be appropriate. More detailed information on the requirements of the QIPAT will follow.

If someone completes the whole diet of FRCM exams as a non-trainee and joined the training, would they still be required to sit the new pattern?

If you have achieved Fellowship prior to August 2021 your Fellowship would remain valid on the 2021 curriculum and no further exams will be required. Trainees will be required to demonstrate continued development in critical appraisal.

Which exam will current CESR candidates sitting exam in 2020 or 2021 require to take?

The exam schedule changes in August 2021. All exams taken in 2020, mapped to the 2015 curriculum, will retain currency in the 2021 assessment schedule within existing currency rules detailed in the Examination Regulations. From August 2021 only the new exam schedule will be available.

If I'm due to complete ST5 in August 2021 but then OOPE what curriculum will I return to?

If you have completed ST5 before August 2021 you will only be required to transfer to the new curriculum if you are not expected to achieve CCT by August 2022 (FTE) or August 2023 (LTFT)

If you do not complete ST5 by August 2021 you will need to complete new FRCM examinations prior to CCT - existing passes in the current examinations do count. Where examinations have been replaced (Critical Appraisal and QIP), existing passes can be used as evidence towards the relevant SLOs.

What will be the portfolio placement for QIP? Would be nice to know for those of us near CCT trying to finish this

You will need to describe your involvement in QIP in each training year (unless you have passed the FRCM Final QIP) using the new EM Quality Improvement Project Assessment Tool (QIPAT). You will need to be involved in QI work in each year of

training. All work completed for the current QIP examination would be appropriate. More detailed description to follow.

If one can't pass CA by August 2021 then what options?

You will need to demonstrate your capability in CLA in the eportfolio. This can include presentation at journal club, records in the e-portfolio outlining appraisal of the medical literature, Extended WPBA that include PICO questions with evidence synthesis, BEST BETs completed, posters or presentation at conference, peer reviewed publications, MD & PhD theses.

Will there be any critical appraisal dates for next summer before new curriculum begins? Currently none showing on RCEM website

The last FRCEM Critical Appraisal examination will take place in March 2021. The exam dates are now available on the College website up to June 2021 and can be viewed [here](#).

If you finished st5 August 2021 but then planned an top year before st6, would you still not have to switch to the new curriculum?

The need to transfer curricula is dependent on CCT date rather than year of training. If you are FTE due to CCT after August 2022 you will be required to migrate to the 2021 Curriculum.

At end of ST3 and with completion of FRCEM intermediate...is the MRCEM OSCE required to pass ARCP?

The requirement for completion of ST3/entry to ST4 remains the Intermediate examinations until August 2021. Trainees who have not passed the Intermediate SJP by August 2021 will be required to pass the MRCEM OSCE. Passes in the Intermediate SJP will remain valid for entry (or re-entry to ST4 for trainees who might have left formal training and returned to HST) for seven years.

How long will FRCEM Primary/Int etc be valid for on introduction of the new curriculum?

FRCEM Primary and FRCEM Intermediate passes retain currency for sitting the FRCEM exams but trainees should be aware that exam passes remain valid for 7 years for entry or re-entry to the training programme.

What happens if you are on the CESR route? Do you have to map to the new curriculum if you are completing in the next two years?

Those on the CESR route should be expected to demonstrate equivalence against the approved curricula which will be the 2021 curriculum in the next 6 months. The College is working with the GMC to finalise the transitional arrangements for CESR applicants. Everything in the 2015 curriculum maps to the 2021 curriculum so there is little or no redundancy. Detailed guidance about transition for CESR trainees will be forthcoming.

For those in ST4 now who are taking the SAQ Final in September, do they need to do the new SBA for their CCT in August 2023?

No. All current FRCEM Final exams retain currency for seven years. There is no need to repeat the same exam in the new format.

If I sat the FRCM Primary before entering into specialty training can retain this in place of the MRCEM primary?

Yes. Exam passes are accepted for seven years prior to entry or re-entry into the specialty training programme.

I did my MRCEM part A in 2016, FRCM SAQ 2017 and the MRCEM OSCE 2018.

Awarded the MRCEM 2018. Currently ST1 trainee, as per the new form of examinations, will I need to do any exams in order to proceed to HST?

No. The GMC have confirmed they will reapproval the MRCEM obtained between August 2018 and July 2021 for progression in training, applicable with the new curriculum from August 2021.

Sorry what about SJP in September?

It continues as planned and does so until it is replaced in August 2021.

Can you clarify what is happening with Critical Appraisal exam? I hear it is being phased out in favour of portfolio, but can you go over this in a bit more depth?

The exam will continue until August 2021, with the final sitting in Spring 2021. Those who have passed and who are not required to transition to the new curriculum (those going into ST6) will not need to record additional evidence in the e-portfolio. Those that have not passed the exam will need to record evidence relevant to the Key Capabilities relating to critical literature appraisal in the e-portfolio. That may include presentation at journal club, records in the e-portfolio outlining appraisal of the medical literature, Extended WPBA that include PICO questions with evidence synthesis, BEST BETs completed, posters or presentation at conference, peer reviewed publications, MD & PhD theses. Trainees who have passed the Critical Appraisal exam but are required to transition to the 2021 curriculum will be required to demonstrate continued competence in this SLO as they progress through the training programme. More detailed guidance will be forthcoming on this soon.

What does EM endeavour to be going forward? Are we aiming to be resuscitationists who 'own' our resus rooms or are we moving more towards being triage between primary and secondary care? Which way does the new curriculum focus us?

The curriculum describes an NHS EM consultant for the next 10-15 years. There is an increased emphasis on resuscitation, procedural skills, decision making and critical thinking, dealing with challenging situations in the ED, supporting others and leading the shift. It is based on training individuals to be able to thrive in the workplace and develop sustainable and sustaining careers in EM.

What if anybody out of training passed OSCE and planning to carry on further exams? Will they need to complete old method? How long time they have?

Assuming you mean the MRCEM OSCE - those who have completed all parts of MRCEM will be eligible to sit the FRCM Final components after the new curriculum is launched in August 2021.

Given the stress that QIP causes. Are you truly telling us we'd be better off taking the QIP this year before the new assessments come in?

If you are working towards the QIP exam and are on schedule to complete it, then it is advisable to complete this. We do not want to give the impression that removing

the exam is de-emphasising the importance of the topic. We appreciate QI is time consuming and if the impression is given that it is less important than before it would be difficult to make up for lost time if QI is not done as a result.

For those moving to the 2021 curriculum, all who are entering ST5 or lower in August 2021, there is a requirement for QI to be reflected in the e-portfolio in each year of training. You will need to describe your involvement in QIP in that training year, using the new EM Quality Improvement Project Assessment Tool (QIPAT). You will need to be involved in QI work in each year of training. All work completed for the current QIP examination would be appropriate. More detailed description to follow.

If you are ST4 who did old MRCEM but not currently started any of FRCER exams due to combination of life factors - would you advise not starting more exams until new ones come in next August?

If you have passed the MRCEM OSCE prior to 1 August 2018, and are able to wait until after 1 August 2021 to progress to the Final suite of examinations you will not be required to pass the FRCER Intermediate SJP. The MRCEM OSCE has been retrospectively approved by the GMC so any candidates who achieved Membership between 1 August 2018 – 31 July 2021 will be able to take the Final suite of examinations post August 2021 without having passed the FRCER Intermediate SJP.

If I am due to complete ST5 in August 2021 and not done the CA exams will you switch to the new format please?

The CA exam will not be available after August 2021, so assessment would be by portfolio assessment. If you are required to transfer to the 2021 programme of assessment (ie new examination structure) it is likely you will also need to migrate to the 2021 curricula. The College is seeking clarification from the GMC on this point.

Having completed FRCER Primary and FRCER Intermediate SJP, should I proceed (as planned) with FRCER SAQ to enter ST4? Would this give me the MRCEM (new currency?) or FRCER intermediate certificate?

You would complete the FRCER Intermediate Certificate if you complete the SAQ before August 2021. If you are in training you still need to pass all relevant exams to enter ST4. If you do not pass the SAQ in August 2021 you would need to pass the MRCEM SBA to enter ST4 as your pass in the SJP remains valid. The only way to obtain MRCEM (including post nominals) is to also pass the MRCEM OSCE.

I am due to complete ST5 in August 2021 but planning to take a year out for OOPT. Will this mean I have to complete the new curriculum when I return to training?

The need to transfer curricula is dependent on CCT date rather than year of training. If you are FTE due to CCT after August 2022 you will be required to migrate to the 2021 Curriculum.

In the wake of COVID and the need for more intensivists to deal with the pandemic, should there be more of a role for EM trainees to more easily be able to access ICM CCT?

That may well be valuable. The 2021 Curriculum includes the need to continue to develop critical care/ resuscitation skills. That would likely help what you have described. Let's hope we don't have another pandemic in our lifetimes.

A QIP assessment every year vs the existing one off exam? This sounds more stressful. :(

The idea isn't to do the QIP exam as it is each year. It is to be involved in QI from the start of training, with increasing amounts of responsibility and eventually leadership. The 'outcome' in this learning outcome is to develop an EM consultant who can identify things that need improving and help lead a team to do so. The approach to assessment is to encourage this development through training. The purpose of the assessment tool will be to assess the learning from episodes, and not the need to produce a large body of descriptive written work.

The SJP exam for March has a pass rate of 52%. are the college happy with that?

The SJP undergoes a rigorous standard setting procedure in each diet. It has been reviewed as part of the examination schedule for the 2021 curriculum by an external body for suitability and was considered to be valid and psychometrically robust. It is to be removed from the examination schedule, however, as the content has been considered better assessed in the workplace as part of a programmatic approach to assessment.

I'm ST3 have passed intermediate SAQ but not SJP. Would I now be able to progress to ST4 (post aug 2021) if I pass the osce instead of the SJP? Or is it necessary to pass the SJP regardless? Thanks

Yes. From August 2021, all existing MRCEM OSCE passes achieved between August 2014 and July 2021 will be accepted for FRCCEM eligibility and entry to higher training (this was approved by the GMC as part of the 2021 curriculum submission).

Progression to ST4 prior to August 2021 requires either the FRCCEM Intermediate SJP or MRCEM achieved between August 2014 and August 2018.

I am due to start and complete a QIP - when would be the last submission date be?

You would be required to apply for the FRCCEM QIP during the application window which can be viewed [here](#). You would be required to submit your QIP during the submission window (21 – 27 March 2021). Candidates who are unsuccessful will be permitted to resubmit their QIP (14 – June 2021) – this submission window will only be available to those resubmit and no new submissions will be accepted.