

Neurodisability Trainee Information

Welcome to the wonderful paediatric subspecialty of neurodisability! We hope you enjoy your training time. This welcome information has been put together to provide you guidance in areas such as ARCPs and the curriculum, plus details of who to contact if you have any concerns or queries.

Sub-specialty Training

Neurodisability training time is 36 months WTE. This usually consists of 24 months WTE neurodisability, which also includes approximately 3 months WTE of CAMHS, plus 12 months WTE of paediatric neurology. How these placements are run varies across the different deaneries, so it is advisable to discuss this with your educational supervisor at the start of your training.

It is possible to competency progress if appropriate, with a minimum training time in total of 24 months WTE. This would need to be discussed at ARCP and progression evidenced.

It is important to note that on call rotas should be compliant with a 70:30 proportion of speciality:acute. If you feel that your acute on call rota is not compliant with this then please let the CSAC know of your concerns (contact details below).

The curriculum

Sub-specialty trainees use the RCPCH Progress Level 3 Generic syllabus alongside the RCPCH Progress Paediatric Neurodisability Syllabus. Don't forget to be evidencing against both throughout your training.

In addition to the generic learning outcomes for level 3, paediatric neurodisability trainees must fulfil the following requirements:

- SLO1: Demonstrates specialist expertise in the management of children and young people with disabilities resulting from congenital or acquired long-term conditions.
- SLO 2: Effectively manages comorbidities, and focuses on rehabilitation and enablement.
- SLO 3: Demonstrates the ability to act as a resource across both hospital and community teams to provide specialist regional advice in a model of shared care.

- SLO 4: Shows development of specialist skills within the neurosciences in the assessment of motor and neurobehavioural disorders, including ADHD and autism, and in neurorehabilitation.

Please download the level 3 sub-specialty syllabus from the RCPCH website. This document describes each SLO in more detail, including the key capabilities (these are mandatory capabilities which must be evidenced) and illustrations (examples of evidence and ranges of clinical contexts that maybe used to support achievement of the Key Capabilities).

The CSAC

The College Specialty Advisory Committees (CSACs) is a sub-committee of the RCPCH Education and Training Quality Committee, which helps to set the standards for the training programme. The CSAC members are:

- Chair - Dr Katherine Martin - katherine.martin3@nuh.nhs.uk
- Training Advisor - Dr Belinda Crowe - belinda.crowe@gosh.nhs.uk
- Training Advisor - Dr Joanna Coghill - joanna.coghill@cpft.nhs.uk
- Quality Advisor - Dr Carl Harvey - carl.harvey@chsft.nhs.uk
- Assessment Advisor – Dr Ruchi Gulati - [Ruchi Gulati - ruchi.gulati@york.nhs.uk](mailto:Ruchi.Gulati@york.nhs.uk)
- Trainee representative – Dr Sarah Haynes – sarahhaynes2@nhs.net

The CSAC are happy to be contacted with any queries or problems related to training.

ARCP

In addition to your usual deanery ARCP requirements, at each annual ARCP a CSAC progression form will need to be completed. This form is a trainee led form focusing on the neurodisability curriculum. The two assessors are Joanna Coghill and Belinda Crowe (see emails in CSAC section above). Trainees in the North should contact Jo and trainees in the South should contact Belinda approximately 2 months prior to when the CSAC form is required by to allow Jo and Belinda time to arrange the review. Please try to make sure your educational supervisor form is completed prior to submitting the CSAC progression form. Jo or Belinda will arrange a meeting, which can be face to face or over the phone depending on what is convenient , to discuss your progress and submit your form prior to ARCP.

The BACD

The BACD is a multi-disciplinary organisation for all professionals working with disabled children and their families. If you are not already a member then please consider joining. There is also the option of subscribing to the BACD official journal, Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology.

The website for the BACD is <https://www.bacdis.org.uk> and here you will find sections on membership, education and training, news and resources. There is also a conferences section with a good list of relevant conferences / courses / study days and the 'DMCN pick of the month' highlights a useful article each month, helping you to keep up to date!

In addition to the CSAC trainee rep role, the BACD also has two trainee representatives

- Dr Kate Harvey - community trainee
- Dr Katy Wood - neurodisability trainee

The BACD trainee reps can be contacted at bacd@rcpch.ac.uk

Every year there is the BACD Trainees' study day, arranged by the BACD trainee reps, which aims to cover clinical topics relevant to neurodisability training as well as wider training topics. The day is a good opportunity to meet and network with other trainees and previous study days have also offered the option of one-to-one appointments with members of the CSAC to discuss your training.

The BACD also hold an Annual Scientific Meeting, as well as regional education meetings, which are useful learning opportunities.

To find out details about regional meetings and other local events, please get in touch with your regional BACD representative. Their details can be found here <https://www.bacdis.org.uk/pages/8-regional-representatives> or please get in touch with the trainee representatives bacd@rcpch.ac.uk

Diploma

Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust works in partnership with the BACD to offer the Paediatric Neurodisability Diploma. The distance learning course includes twelve units covering many aspects of paediatric disability and complements the grid curriculum well. It is run over 2 years and in addition to the distance learning there are 4 residentials held in Sheffield. The diploma is a valuable resource to those undertaking training in paediatric neurodisability and is highly recommended to those undertaking grid training. It is however recognised that it is entirely feasible to complete Grid training without completing the course and as such course completion is not mandatory in order to obtain Grid accreditation in paediatric neurodisability.

The Neurodisability Community (TNC)

The Neurodisability Community is an on-line platform (hosted through Trello) designed to support networking and education for both CCH and Neurodisability trainees. The TNC is trainee-led with support from the CSAC and content is uploaded by users. The Trello board covers training, courses, research, condition specific resources, plus an area to share projects and learning. There is also a specific START area. The TNC is in its infancy but the hope is we can build links with each other across the country, share learning and enhance the training experience.

If you would like to join the community please email: Theurodisabilitycommunity@gmail.com

The TNC will also need trainees to join and keep the forwards momentum, so if you would like to know more about getting involved please contact via the email above.

Peer Support

Current trainees have highlighted the importance of peer support and meeting trainees from other regions. Ways that trainees have found useful include:

- Joining The Neurodisability Community
- Through the Sheffield Paediatric Disability Distance Learning Course
- Attending BACD Annual Trainees' Meeting
- Joining online teaching sessions
- Contacting trainee representatives

We also have an informal WhatsApp group for trainees. Formal, important information will always be sent to you via email so joining this group is not required, but it is a nice way to have easy contact with each other. If you would like to join the group please email sarahhaynes2@nhs.net with your phone number.

Teaching

Over recent months, an online neurodisability teaching programme, aimed at GRID trainees, has been set up. This is currently running weekly on Wednesdays at 1-2pm using MS Teams. This was initially established in response to COVID and associated impact on training opportunities. It is planned to continue this from September onwards, although the timing and frequency of the sessions is currently being reviewed. The sessions cover a mixture of clinical and training topics. We

are very hopeful that this will allow trainees to keep in touch with each other and for trainees to have access to regular high quality teaching from experienced neurodisability clinicians and AHPs.

There is also Community Child Health teaching, using the same format. If you would like to join either or both of these sessions please email Theurodisabilitycommunity@gmail.com with your name, region, training year and GMC number.

Other relevant information

- In addition to the BACD, the BPNA (British Paediatric Neurology Association), APPM (Association for Paediatric Palliative Medicine) and EACD (European Academy of Childhood Disability) are relevant to neurodisability training (membership is optional and not compulsory).
- The BPNA run a number of courses including the Paediatric Epilepsy Training 1-3, movement disorder and tone management. These can be booked via the BPNA website.
- A number of e-learning resources are available, including Disability Matters, MindEd and Emergency Health Care Plans (via the Council for Disabled Children). Please see the BACD website for more information.
- The Neurodisability Community trainee committee are putting together a list of specialist clinics which run in different areas of the country, in order to provide opportunities for trainees to visit and experience clinics which may not be available in their local area. Please look out for this information.

Please do get in touch with any concerns and problems. Enjoy your training time and welcome to the team!

The Neurodisability CSAC