

Standing Committees

Accreditation Committee's Report

Chairman	Dr. CHAN Chok-wan
Hon. Secretary	Dr. LEUNG Ping, Maurice
Members	Dr. CHAN Kwok-hing, Alex
	Dr. CHIU Man-chun
	Prof. FOK Tai-fai
	Dr. HO Che-shun, Jackson
	Prof. LAU Yu-lung
	Dr. LEUNG Chik-wa, Paul
	Dr. LI Chi-kong (<i>from 19 Feb 2008</i>)
	Prof. NG Pak-cheung
	Dr. TSAO Yen-chow
	Dr. WONG Sik-nin
	Prof. LOW Chung-kai, Louis (<i>ex-officio</i>)

1. Meetings

Four meetings were held during the period October 2008 to September 2009 (97th to 100th meetings dated 9/12/2008, 10/2/2009, 15/6/2009 and 11/8/2009).

2. Accreditation of Institutions

2.1 Accreditation of a Hospital-based Paediatric Rehabilitation Programme in CMC

The Council (114th Council meeting on 15 May 2008) had resolved to accredit the CMC Paediatric Rehabilitation Programme as a module of Developmental Paediatrics for the purpose of General Paediatric Training. Effective from 15 May 2008, trainees may opt to do no more than 3 months in Basic Training and/or no more than 3 months in Higher Training. Accreditation Committee will review the CMC training programme in November 2009.

2.2 Accreditation as a Training Centre for Developmental Paediatrics - DKCAC

The Council (114th Council meeting on 15 May 2008) approved DKCAC's application for accreditation as a training centre for Developmental Paediatrics for the purpose of fulfilling the obligatory 6-month MCHC/CAS module in

Basic training. DKCAC would be accredited to provide 3 months of training in Developmental Paediatrics. The programme will be reviewed in December 2009.

3. Accreditation of Training Curriculum

3.1 Revised Community Paediatrician Training Programme in MCHC and CAS

The 6-month mandatory elective to MCH/CAS with revised training curriculum has started in January 2009. From January 2009 onward, a basic trainee will undergo 3 months training in MCH of FHS followed by 3 months training in CAS. The maximum number of trainees that FHS and CAS could accommodate is 12 per 6-month rotation.

3.2 Subspecialty Training within General Paediatrics – Accreditation Guidelines 7.4(a)(iii)

Council (114th Council meeting on 15 May 2008) had resolved to make changes to section 7.4(a)(iii) of the Accreditation Guidelines (concerning recognition of subspecialty team rotation for the purpose of General Paediatrics Training). Subsequent discussion in Council resolved that the existing version was good enough for the purpose of subspecialty rotations within General Paediatrics. The amended version of guideline section 7.4(a)(iii) would serve as an internal reference document within the College.

3.3 Child Protection Training

Council (120th and 121st meetings on 11 May and 9 July 2009) had approved child protection course to be a mandatory training in the 6-year training programme. This rule is to be implemented with effective from 1 July 2009. The new training requirement will be applicable to all new trainees joining paediatric training programme on and after 1 July 2009 and sitting the Exit Assessment in June 2015 and thereafter.

3.4 Accreditation Criteria for “Extended Hospital Activities Accreditable for College Training in Paediatrics” (EHA)

The Committee recommended and Council approved to close the discussion on this issue pending progress of the future Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics.

4. Accreditation of Trainers

4.1 Qualifications of Accredited Trainers

According to the Accreditation Guidelines

- 1) a Trainer for Basic Training Programme should be a College Fellow; and
- 2) a Trainer for Higher Training Programme should have a minimum of 3 years post-Fellowship experience in an accredited training centre.

4.2 Applications of New Trainers

Applications will be considered **ONLY** when the doctors have officially been admitted as Academy Fellows.

4.3 Trainers Status Update

Trainers status should be updated to be trainers in both Basic and Higher Paediatric Training Programmes upon application when they fulfilled 3 years of post-Fellowship experience.

4.4 Re-accreditation of Trainers

Trainers for the Basic Training Programme and the Higher Training Programme are accredited for a period of two years. Applications for accreditation or re-accreditation must be submitted with a brief updated curriculum vitae of each of the trainers.

5. Accreditation of Trainees

5.1 Subcommittee for Accreditation of Individual Training

The Subcommittee led by Dr Ho Che Shun, Jackson is responsible for assessing, accrediting and advising individual trainees in their training programmes, and to present the vetted programmes to the Committee for consideration and approval.

5.2 Remedial Training for MCH Training

Council (121st meeting on 9 July 2009) resolved that trainees with a failed assessment report in MCH and CAS training will require to undertake a remedial training period as recommended by MCH / CAS and endorsed by the Accreditation Committee. This remedial training rule will be applicable to all paediatric trainees undertaking mandatory training in child health related specialties, including MCH and CAS. A new Assessment Form for non-paediatric training (including training in MCH and CAS) will be used to better reflect the ratings and performance of trainees.

6. Recognition of Training undertaken by Family Medicine (FM) Trainees

At present, Family Medicine trainees undertaking training in paediatric units are counted as basic trainees within the trainers-to-trainees ratio but there was no stipulation on the content of their training curriculum in paediatric units. A survey to

all COSs and training supervisors revealed that the majority but not all of paediatric training units considered such trainees to have substantially similar training as other trainees in their Basic Paediatric Training Programme. At the 121st Council meeting (9 July 2009), Council resolved that training periods of non-paediatric trainees (including FM trainees) will be accredited by the Accreditation Committee on an individual case basis, with payment of a retrospective accreditation administration fee.

7. Basic Training in CAS/MCH during the period of Human Swine Influenza Pandemic

To respond to an enquiry from the HA COC Paediatric Training and Manpower Subcommittee about the training in CAS/MCH during the period of human swine influenza pandemic, the Council at the July 2009 meeting resolved that whatever deployment of staff would be made during the pandemic period, the College would recognize their training and no “make-up” classes would be required afterwards for the purpose of fulfilling the mandatory CAS/MCH elective requirement.

8. Updated Accreditation Guidelines as Official Internal Reference Document

An updated list of Accreditation Guidelines with Council approval dates had been made and endorsed by Council as an official internal reference document.

9. College Trainer and Trainee Statistics

As of November 2009, the College has in total accredited 214 Trainers in Paediatrics. The number of enrolled trainees is: 104 (Basic) and 51 (Higher). The overall trainer to trainee ratio is 1.4 to 1.

CONCLUSION

The past twelve months have been a memorable period of significant activities and progress for the Accreditation Committee, as evidenced by the work achieved throughout the period. We have successfully amended the 6-month mandatory modules on community child health during basic training in General Paediatrics into two sections, namely family health services and developmental paediatrics of 3-month each. We have also accredited the Child Assessment Service of the HKSAR Government Department of Health and the Duchess of Kent Child Assessment Centre and the Caritas Medical Centre Rehabilitation Programme of

the Hospital Authority as centres for the said Developmental Paediatrics training.

Council (120th and 121st meetings on 11 May and 9 July 2009) had approved Child Protection Course to be a mandatory training in the 6-year training programme. This rule is to be implemented with effective from 1 July 2009. The new training requirement will be applicable to all new trainees joining paediatric training programme on and after 1 July 2009 and sitting the Exit Assessment in June 2015 and thereafter.

After many years of discussion, the Committee recommended and Council approved to close the discussion on “Accreditation Criteria for “Extended Hospital Activities Accreditable for College Training in Paediatrics” (EHA)’ pending progress of the future Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics.

We have also been actively supporting the work for the Working Group on Accreditation of Paediatric Subspecialties set up by the College Council in July 2008 for implementation of these Subspecialties in Hong Kong via establishing new accreditation criteria and relevant implementation procedures.

Work ahead is formidable and challenging but we are fortunate to have a competent and cooperative team of committee members, many of whom are also key figures at other standing committees of the College. This specially intended overlap enables the Accreditation Committee to work in good harmony and to interact efficiently with diversified functions of the College. The other assets of this Committee are the honour to have our College President and College Honorary Secretary sitting in our Committee. Their invaluable contribution is vital and essential for all the work we have achieved during the period of this report. We strongly believe that the successful fulfillment of our duties is dependent on the transparency, reliability and accountability of the Accreditation Committee, on effective communications with and support from all College Fellows and trainees, and good relationships with other sister colleges within the Academy. We are privileged to be able to serve at this important ground-breaking stage, and will strive to achieve our objectives with your valuable support!

Dr. CHAN Chok-wan
Chairman, Accreditation Committee

Working Group on Accreditation of Paediatric Subspecialties's Report

Preamble

The Hong Kong College of Paediatricians has a statutory responsibility to ensure the standard and quality of paediatric practice through a reliable system of training, accreditation, and continuous professional development. The programme in General Paediatrics has been running effectively for the past decade. With the advance in tertiary services and the planning of the future Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics, there is a need for a proper accreditation system of subspecialists. The College set up a Task Force for Accreditation of Higher Training of Paediatric Subspecialties in 2000, and through its hard work, has laid down the groundwork and guidelines for subspecialty accreditation.

In September 2008, the College Council has set up the Working Group on Accreditation of Paediatric Subspecialties to carry on the work of the Task Force. The terms of reference of the Working Group are:

- 1) To advise the College Council on accreditation of paediatric subspecialties in Hong Kong
- 2) To study the feasibility of implementation of paediatric subspecialties
- 3) To formulate an action plan
- 4) To assist in the implementation of paediatric subspecialties
- 5) To monitor outcome measures for success of implementation

The current membership of the Working Group include:

- Dr Chan Chok Wan (Chairman)
- Dr SN Wong (Honorary Secretary)
- College President (Prof Louis Low)
- College Honorary Secretary (Dr SN Wong)
- Professor and Chairman of Paediatrics, HKU and CUHK (2) (Prof YL Lau and Prof PC Ng)
- Chairman and Secretary of Accreditation Committee (Dr CW Chan and Dr Maurice Leung)
- Chairman and Secretary of Education Committee (Dr Alex Chan and Dr WH Lee)
- Chairman and Secretary of Examination Committee (Prof PC Ng and Dr Bill Chan)
- HA representatives (2) (Dr MC Chiu and Dr CB Chow)
- DH representatives (2) (Dr Shirley Leung and Dr Catherine Lam)
- Private Practice representatives (2) (Dr Daniel Chiu and Dr Alfred Tam)
- Council members (2) (Prof TF Fok and Dr Li Chi Kong)
- College Fellows (2 senior Fellows and 2 young Fellows) (Dr YC Tsao, Dr MY Cheng, Dr Ho Hok Kung and Dr Cheng Ling Ling)

With a broader representation by Fellows from all sectors and subspecialty interests, the Working Group will be able to provide impartial advice and facilitation of subspecialty accreditation. Furthermore, the Working Group will make announcements and seek wide consultation from all Fellows upon receipt of any application for subspecialty accreditation.

Progress Work of the Working Group

The Working Group held 3 meetings during the period September 2008 to September 2009 (1st – 3rd meetings dated 30/9/2008, 3/12/2008 and 14/4/2009).

Since the 3rd Forum on subspecialty development on 16 July 2008, the Working Group met further and finalized the logistics and process of vetting applications of paediatric subspecialties. The procedures were elaborated in the document “Procedures of Vetting Applications for Accreditation from Subspecialty Groups”. Colleagues can read this and all relevant documents on subspecialty accreditation from the College website www.paediatrician.org.hk.

In the Council meeting on 12 May 2009, the College Council has also endorsed an amendment of the Byelaws by adding a section on Subspecialty affairs, as follows:

Section 10. Subspecialty affairs: The College shall supervise paediatric subspecialty development through the accreditation, training and examination of each paediatric subspecialty in accordance to the Guidelines for Recognition of Academy College of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.

- (i) The Director of Subspecialty Boards shall be appointed by the Council to supervise all Subspecialty Boards and to carry out relevant duties as directed by the Council. He/she will be an ex-officio member of the Council and the interim Working Group on Accreditation of Paediatric Subspecialties.*
- (ii) A Committee for Subspecialty Boards shall be formed to assist the Director of Subspecialty Boards in his/her duties. The membership of the Committee will comprise the chairpersons of Accreditation, Education, and Examination Committees, the chairperson of each established Subspecialty Board, one representative each from the Hospital Authority, Department of Health, the two Universities, Fellows in private practice, as well as one senior Fellow and one junior Fellow appointed by the Council.*
- (iii) A Subspecialty Board shall be formed for each accredited subspecialty in accordance to the Guidelines on the Criteria for the Accreditation of a Paediatric Subspecialty Training Programme of the College.*
- (iv) The term of office of the Director, Committee for Subspecialty Boards, and Subspecialty Board members shall normally be three years or as directed by the*

Council. Members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-appointment, but the Director of Subspecialty Boards shall hold office for no more than a cumulative total of two terms.

The Council at the 120th and 121st meetings on 11 May and 9 July 2009 agreed to make announcement for the appointment of Director of Subspecialty Boards. The Working Group had drafted a proposed procedure stating the criteria for nomination and the mechanism for such an appointment, pending approval by the Council.

Up till now, the College has not received any applications from any subspecialty groups. The Working Group reiterated that subspecialty development was not mandatory and only subspecialties which were mature and ready would be accredited. Accreditation of subspecialty should be stringent and responsible. The following criteria should be considered for defining a subspecialty, namely 1. parallel cases in other places, 2. appropriateness and relevance of the training programme, 3. sustainability, 4. mechanism for monitoring, 5. external assessors' views.

With the planning of the Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics (CEP) by the Hong Kong Government, there is urgency for our College to prepare for the tertiary subspecialty services in it. Thus, the College has planned to organize an Open Forum to all College Fellows on 27 October 2009. This is to update all Fellows on the background and progress of subspecialty work, and to make known about the open invitation for nomination of the post of Director of Subspecialty Boards.

The Working Group would like to take this opportunity to show our appreciation to the guidance of our College Presidents: Professor Leung Nai Kong, Professor Fok Tai Fai and Professor Louis Low; support from the College Council and members of the Working Group; active participation from the Chiefs of Service and Training Supervisions as well as all College Fellows. All these set momentum and direction for the work of the Working Group which ultimately enables us to achieve our mission. To all their contributions, we say thank you and we look forward to their continual support in the future.

Dr. CHAN Chok-wan
Chairman, Working Group on Accreditation
of Paediatric Subspecialties in Hong Kong