

Call for Application of Training in the
Subspecialty of Genetics and
Genomics (Paediatrics) (GGP)

遺傳學及基因組學專科(兒科)

from The Hong Kong College of Paediatricians

The Hong Kong College of Paediatricians Genetics and Genomics (Paediatrics)

遺傳學及基因組學專科(兒科)

Subspecialty Description

Clinical Genetics and Genomics (GG) is an internationally well-recognized subspecialty concerned with the diagnosis and management of inherited disorders and birth defects, including the estimation of genetic risks and genetic counselling of family members. Medical geneticists generally work in a multidisciplinary team in close collaboration with laboratory scientists, bioinformaticians, clinical co-workers, genetic counsellors and academic colleagues.

The Genetics and Genomics (Paediatrics)(GGP) subspecialty training programme offers a 3-year training curriculum in Hong Kong. The objective of this programme is to provide necessary training to equip a trained specialist with the knowledge, skills and attitudes in clinical genetics to provide high standard of professional service to patients and their families.

Commencement of programme

Date of commencement of training programme: 1st July 2023

Invitations for training will normally be issued in January and July, subject to availability of trainers and clinical rotations.

Eligibility

- Candidates who have completed 3 years basic training in general paediatrics and have passed the Joint MRCPCH (UK) / Hong Kong College of Paediatricians Intermediate Examination are eligible to receive up to a maximum of one cumulated year of GGP subspecialty training experience during their higher training in general paediatrics (the overlapping year), subject to prior approval of the proposed training by the GGP Subspecialty Board. Or
- Specialists holding the qualification of FHKAM (Paediatrics) or its equivalent.

Training programme

- There will be ONE training programme for the whole of Hong Kong, with a number of accredited training centres.
- The training programme will take place in training centres under supervision of accredited trainers and supervisors, aimed at taking trainee through all the required curriculum of training in knowledge, practice and skills.
- The following hospitals/hospital clusters/services are accredited training centres under Hong Kong College of Paediatricians for GGP training: 1. Clinical Genetics Service Unit (CGSU), Hong Kong Children's Hospital and 2. Department of Paediatrics, Prince of Wales Hospital. The maximum recognized training in either training centre is 30 months. In other words, during the 3-year training period, a trainee needs to be rotated to other training centre(s) for at least 6 months.
- The curriculum is designed to train candidates to provide up-to-standard clinical care and to develop the fundamental skills to pursue a life-long career in GGP. There will be 24 months of mandatory clinical training mainly consisting of in-patient/out-patient clinical rotations, and including at least 12 months of paediatric genetics, 6 months of combined clinical and laboratory rotation (on either cytogenetics, molecular genetics, bioinformatics or metabolic genetics), and another 6 months of clinical training in paediatric genetics, metabolic medicine, reproductive genetics, or adult genetics.

- Six months of elective training in an overseas medical genetics/genomics centre with a recognized programme is strongly recommended. Such elective training can be clinical, laboratory or research based.
- Obtaining the qualification of a postgraduate diploma or degree (e.g. MSc, MPhil, PhD or MD) related to clinical/medical genetics may also be recognized as a completion of elective training for up to a maximum of 6 months, subject to approval by the training director.
- Training will be competence-based that integrates clinical care with small group tutorials, clinical case write-ups, postgraduate courses, journal clubs, clinical/laboratory meetings, interdisciplinary conferences and grand rounds. During the training, a trainee is required to pursue either a basic or clinical research project related to medical genetics or genetic counselling. In addition, a trainee is required to perform some administrative duties e.g. clinical audit or quality assurance activities under the supervision of trainers. Participation in postgraduate training/short courses in genetic counselling/communication skills, genomics/bioinformatics, molecular biology/developmental biology is strongly encouraged. Supervision is provided by trainers who have attained status as clinicians, educators and scientists. Assessment will be in the format of on-going assessment and exit examination (or other modalities).

Assessment

This consists of on-going interim assessments and a final exit assessment. A trainee in this programme is expected to keep record of training activities by means of log book that will be reviewed at annual interim assessments. The final exit assessment normally takes place in June and/or December each year. The trainee is required to submit 2 original dissertations; one of which should have been accepted for publication in a local or overseas peer reviewed journal. The other dissertation can be the same as the dissertation submitted for exit assessment at the end of Higher Training In General Paediatrics, provided that the content of which is agreed by the training director to be adequately related to GGP. An examination which can be in the format of oral, written or clinical examination will be conducted.

Application

Please send your application and documents required to (Fill in the form below):

*Dr Luk Ho Ming, Hon. Secretary of GGP Subspecialty Board
c/o Ms Cherry Kwok, College Secretary, The Hong Kong College of Paediatricians,
Room 801, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Jockey Club Building, 99 Wong Chuk
Hang Road, Hong Kong*

Enquiries

Full details about the programme are available at the Hong Kong College of Paediatricians website <http://www.paediatrician.org.hk>

Please direct enquires to *Dr Luk Ho Ming*, Hon. Secretary, at lukhm@ha.org.hk