

Further to the letter sent on 31st May 2001 by Professor Louis C.K. Low to all the Chiefs of Service regarding the Guidelines on Higher Training in Paediatrics, there has been concern on the interpretation of the sentence "The following training requirements will be strictly enforced on 1st July 2001 irrespective of the stage of training of the trainee". After much deliberation at the Council meeting held on 29th October 2001, Council resolved that:

With effect from the 1st July 2001 and thereafter, ALL trainees entering into Higher Training in Paediatrics should adhere to the Guidelines on Higher Training (vide infra). During the interim period between 1st July 2001 and 30th June 2004, the College would deal with minor infractions of these rules by trainees sympathetically provided there is a good reason. ALL trainees sitting the Exit Assessment in June 2004 or thereafter, irrespective of the date of commencement of training, should fulfill ALL of the following training requirements:

1. The duration of supervised Higher Training should be no less than 3 years in College accredited centres.
2. There should be at least 2 years of hospital-based paediatrics, of which not less than 12 months should be devoted to general paediatrics with acute emergency hospital admission of children not restricted to any age group or paediatric subspecialty.
3. The trainee may opt to undergo training for not more than 12 months in one paediatric subspecialty (as defined in the Guideline for Paediatric Training) inclusive of the 6 months obligatory rotation to local and overseas training centres should such a rotation is through the same paediatric subspecialty opted for.
4. The trainee may also opt to undergo training for not more than 12 months in child health related specialties (e.g. child psychiatry, maternity child health clinics, school health service, etc.) of which not more than 6 months should be spent in any single specialty and inclusive of the 6 months obligatory rotation to local and overseas training centres should such a rotation is through the same child health related specialty.
5. All trainees must undergo a 6-month obligatory rotation through other training unit(s) (local/overseas). Prospective applications must be submitted, at least 3 months before the commencement of overseas training, to the Accreditation Committee together with the basic and essential information required to accompany any such application. The Accreditation Committee should also be notified before a trainee starts the rotation to other local training unit(s).

Prof. Louis C.K. Low
Honorary Secretary