

Hong Kong College of Paediatricians

Notes on application of Interruption in Subspecialty Training

A) Approval of interruption of training, relevant points in the guidelines via College website:

[file:///C:/Users/user01/Downloads/20200228_Guideline-criteria_TrainProg-rev%2020191008%20\(8\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/user01/Downloads/20200228_Guideline-criteria_TrainProg-rev%2020191008%20(8).pdf)

Or

Guidelines on the Criteria for the Accreditation of a Paediatric Subspecialty Training Programme, extracted:

13.3.8.6 The programme should be continuous.

- a) Any one period of interruption should not be more than 12 weeks.
- b) Only one period of continuous or cumulative 12-week leave would be allowed (other than the entitled statutory leave, annual leave and casual leave) during the 3-year Subspecialty Training Programme. Trainees taking leave more than that would be required to extend his/her training period to make up for the interruption in excess of 12 weeks during the subspecialty training.
- c) A declaration of any interruption of training should be made by the trainee on his/her application for Subspecialty Board Examination.

B)

- The Subspecialty trainee should therefore apply for approval of interruption of subspecialty training through respectively Subspecialty Board. The Subspecialty Board will assess whether or not the trainee's training will be affected and should be able to tell him/her the duration of time he/she may extend his/her training (if needed). For example, if a trainee's training period has been interrupted by 14 weeks, then, if the interruption is approved, the trainee would be required to extend his or her training period by 2 weeks. This is applicable to trainees whatever the nature of the interruption.

C) Some general principles to help the Subspecialty Boards to decide whether or not to recommend approval:

1. There must be a justifiable reason for the interruption, either because of medical or other compassionate reason
2. The trainee should show his / her intention for further training
3. The trainee should still fulfil all the mandatory training requirements of the 3-year programme despite the interruption
4. Final decision is at the discretion of the College Council.

Any interruption of subspecialty training that may potentially exceed the threshold of 12 weeks requires vetting by the Subspecialty Board.

- If Subspecialty Board approved the interruption training, Subspecialty Board should further seek endorsement from CSB and College Council.
- Subspecialty Board will issue approval letter to the Subspecialty Trainee upon final endorsement received from College Council.

Updated: 11 Nov 2020

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