

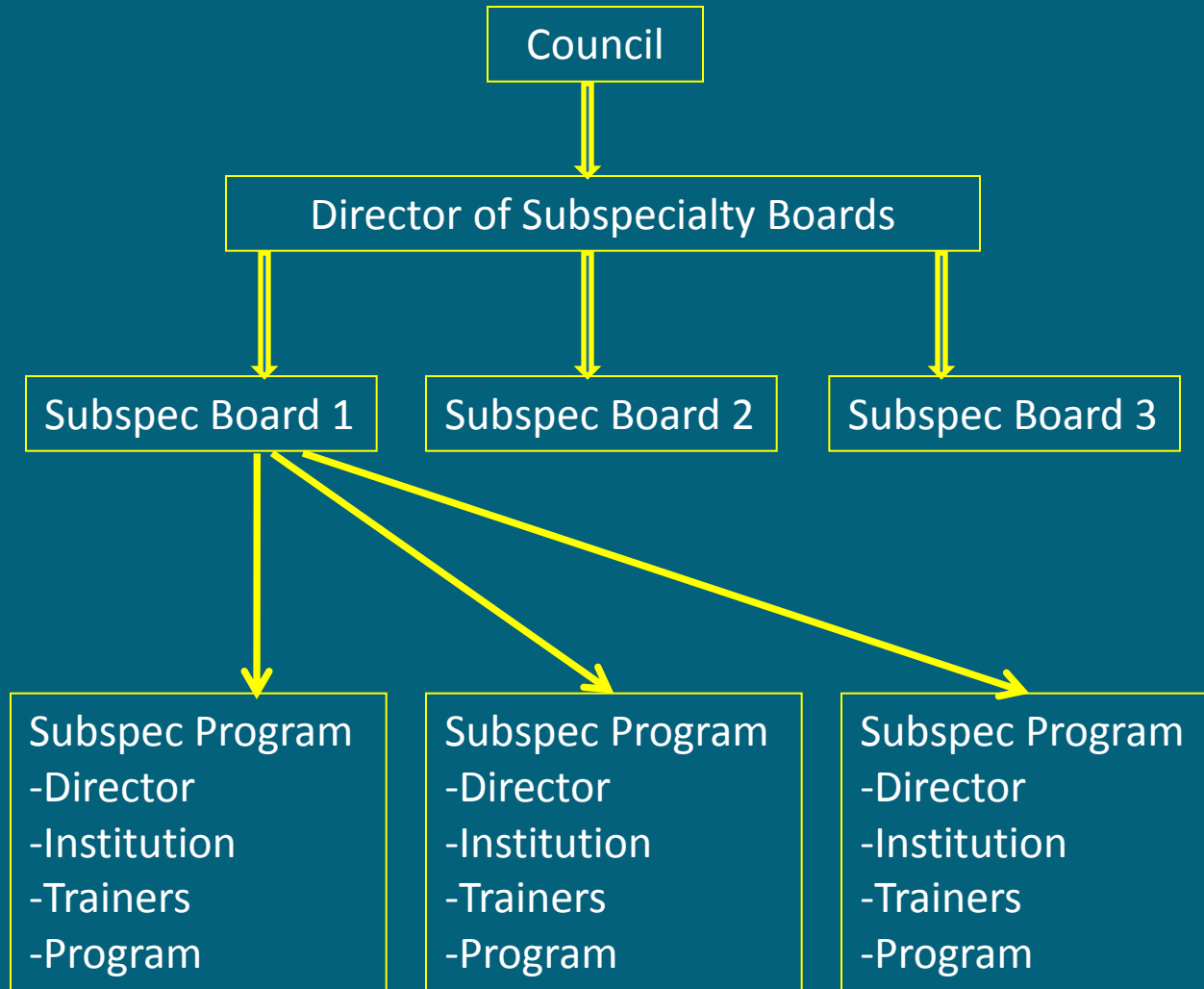
Guidelines on Criteria for Accreditation of a Paediatric Subspecialty Training Programme

*Endorsed by Council of the HK Coll Paed at
its 88th Meeting on 6 Jan 2004*

Criteria for recognition of a subspecialty by HKAM

- The subspecialty is needed in Hong Kong
- New & different from existing subspecialties
- The knowledge, skills, practice identifiably distinct, and compatible with paediatrics
- The subspecialty exists in other countries
- Recognised at institutional level: Associate Professor (universities) or Consultant (HA, DH)
- Has administrative support of the College

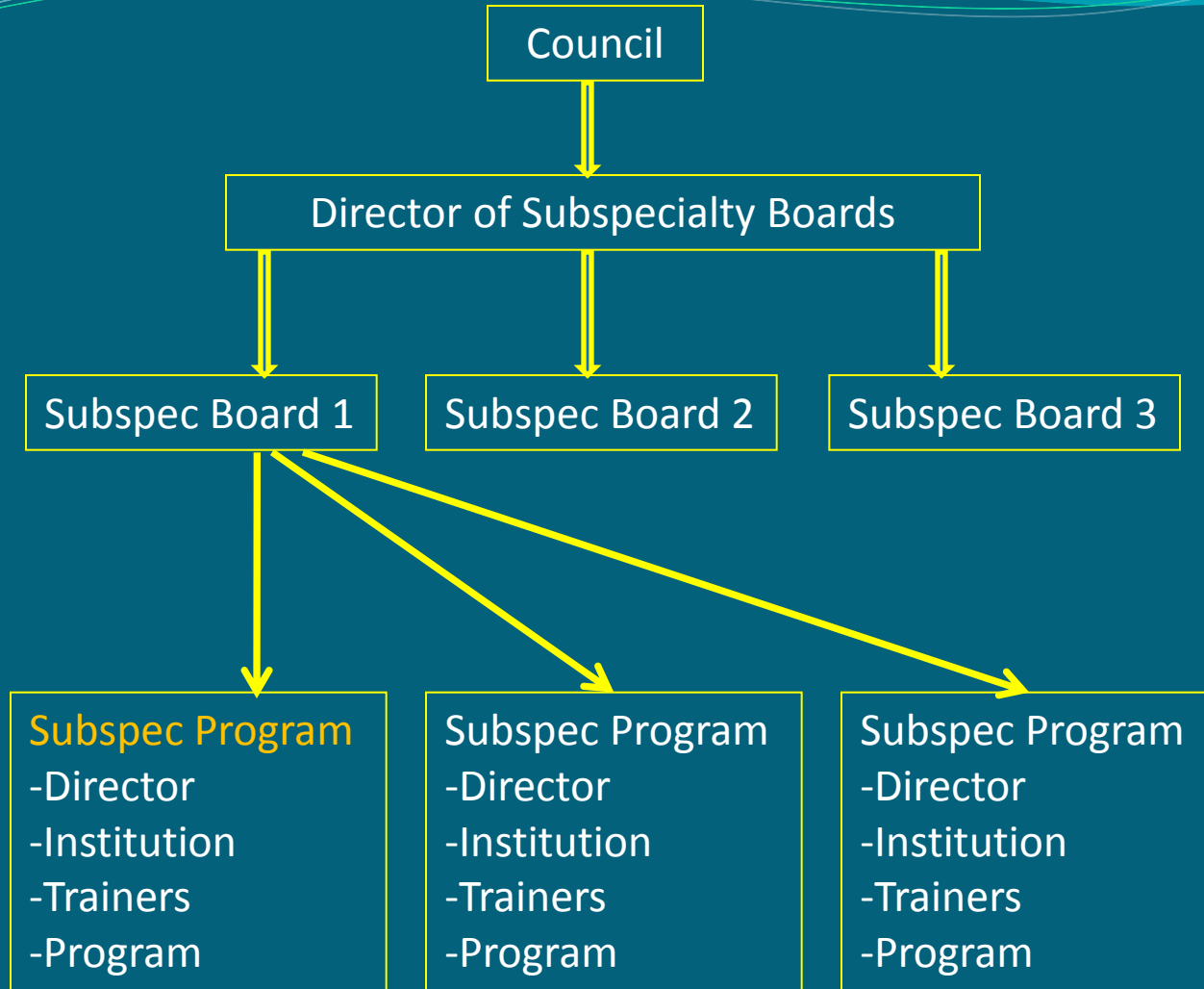
Proposed infrastructure



Subspecialty Board

- **Composition:** 6 Fellows (5 appointed from Universities, HA, DH, private; 1 appointed by Council)
- **Chairman** to be elected by members, appointed by Council
- **Functions:**
 - Set training & accreditation guidelines for the subspecialty
 - Accreditation of the subspecialty programme
 - Accredit training modules; institutions

- Accredit Programme Directors and Trainers
- Ensure standard comparable to overseas centres by arranging peer review of Programme
- Organise Subspecialty Board examinations, and appoint examiners
- Administer CME/CPD programme for the subspecialty

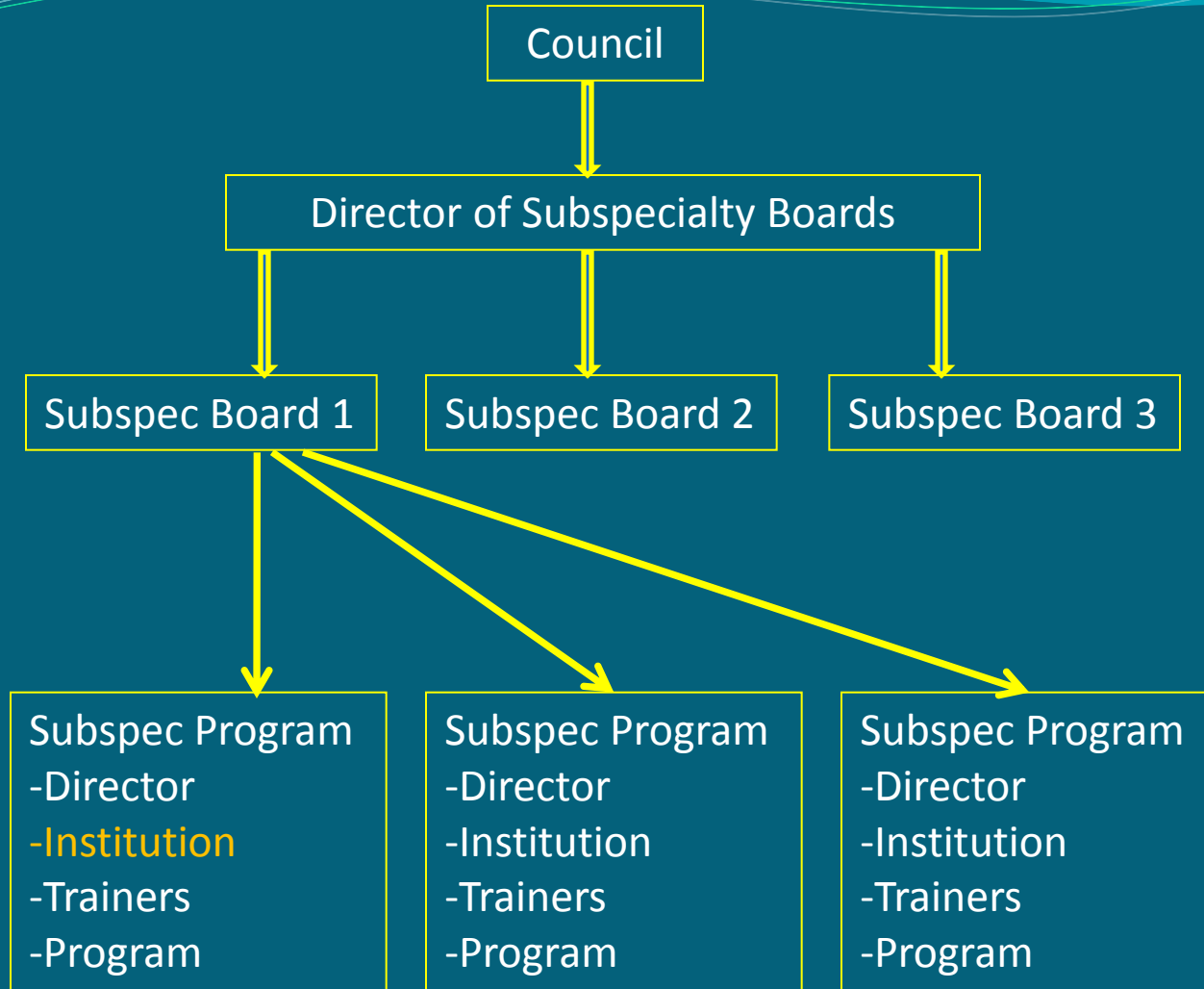


Criteria of a Subspecialty Programme

- General criteria:
 - Service need – sound service infrastructure in institutions
 - Duration: 3 yr (1 yr overlap with Higher Training in General Paediatrics)
 - Clinical training should be 24-36 months
 - Research mandatory – need to complete 2 dissertations
 - Relevant full-time research postgraduate degree is recognised as 6 months of training (maximum, after assessment by Subspecialty Board)
 - Teaching & administrative duties required
 - Higher qualifications and overseas training are encouraged

Criteria of Subspecialty Programme

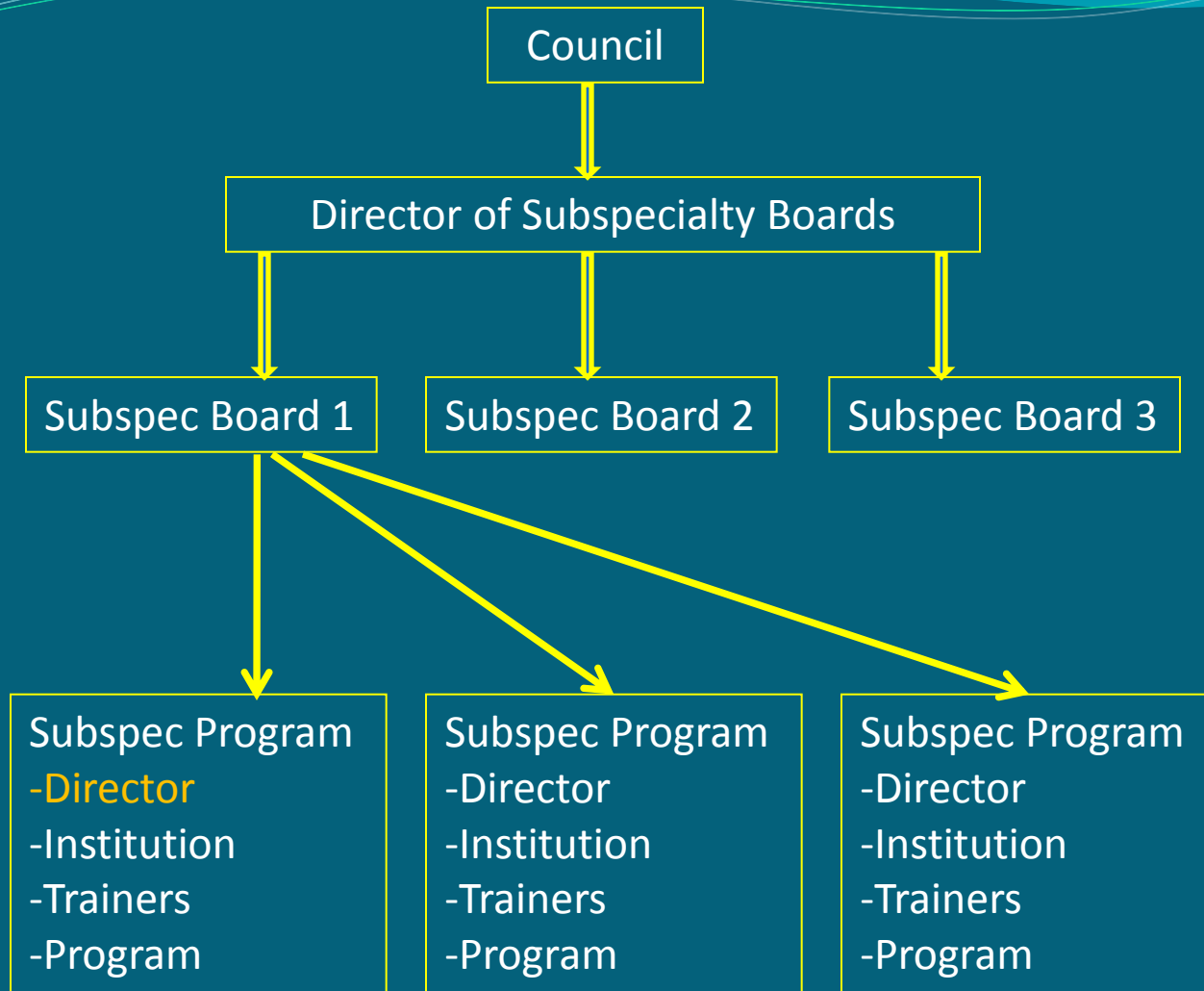
- Specific requirements in contents:
 - Comparable to overseas programmes (submit 2 overseas programmes for comparison)
 - Educational objectives – knowledge, skills, attitudes
 - Detailed curriculum
 - Appropriate administrative structure – Directors, trainers, continuous assessment, annual reports
 - Rotate to ≥ 2 but ≤ 4 centres, one major centre, ≥ 2 trainers
 - Duration – 3 yr, 1 yr overlap with Higher Training,
 - Continuity of training (interruption < 12 weeks allowed)
 - Assessment – portfolio, Board Exams



Criteria of a **Training Institution** in Subspecialty Programme

- Adequate clinical service – clinical workload, case mix
- Facilities – other supporting specialties & allied health, availability of investigations
- Has educational & CME/CPD activities – journal clubs, grand rounds, seminars, X-ray meetings, etc.
- Has regular audits of clinical activities
- Subspecialty journals and reference textbooks available

The duration of accredited training in an institution should be determined by Subspecialty Board

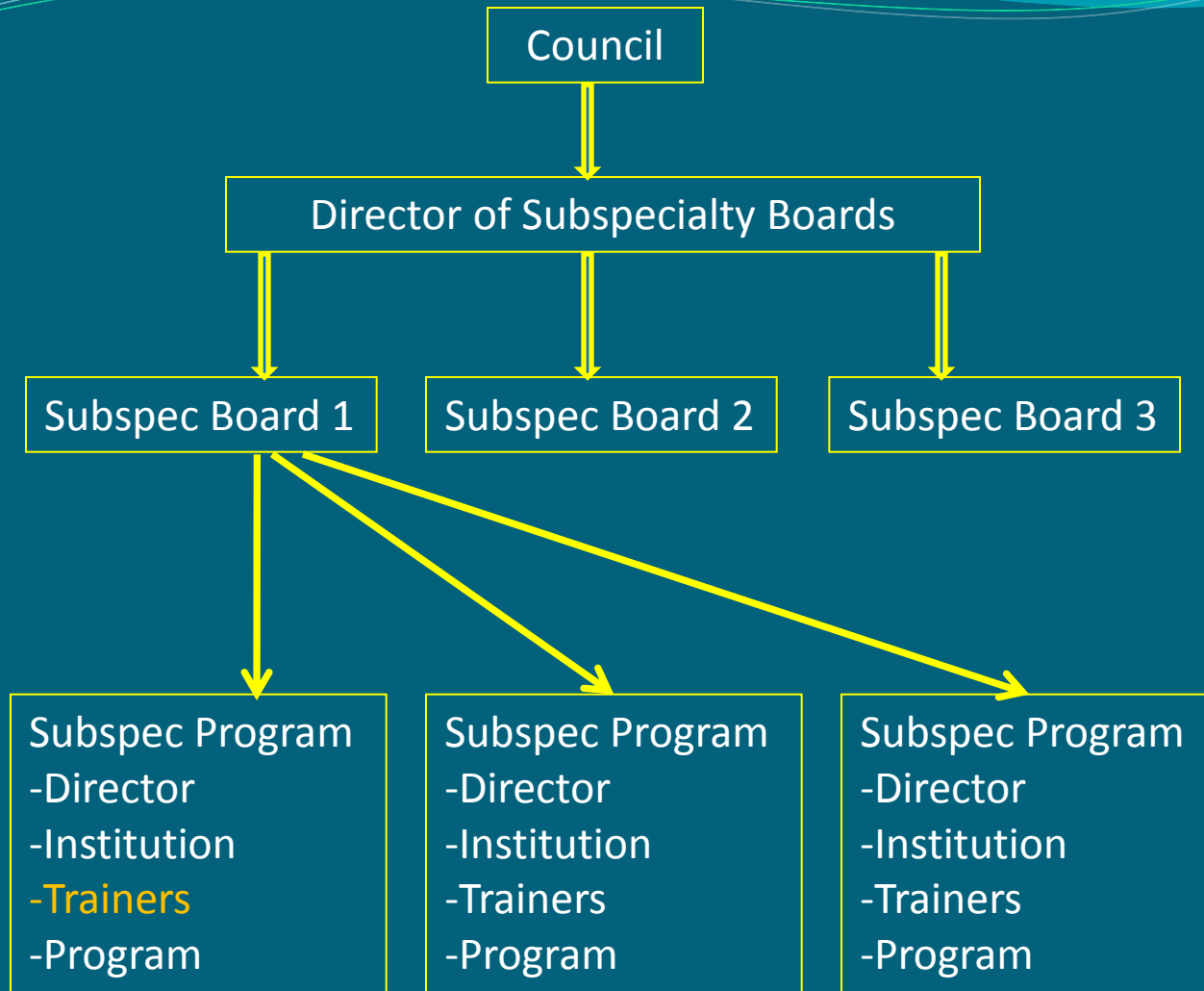


Criteria of accreditation of a Subspecialty Programme **Director**

- Fellow of the College in that Subspecialty
- 10 years of good practice excluding training period
- Actively involved in teaching, clinical audit, developing management guidelines
- Active in research – with track record of publications
- Fulfills CME/CPD requirements

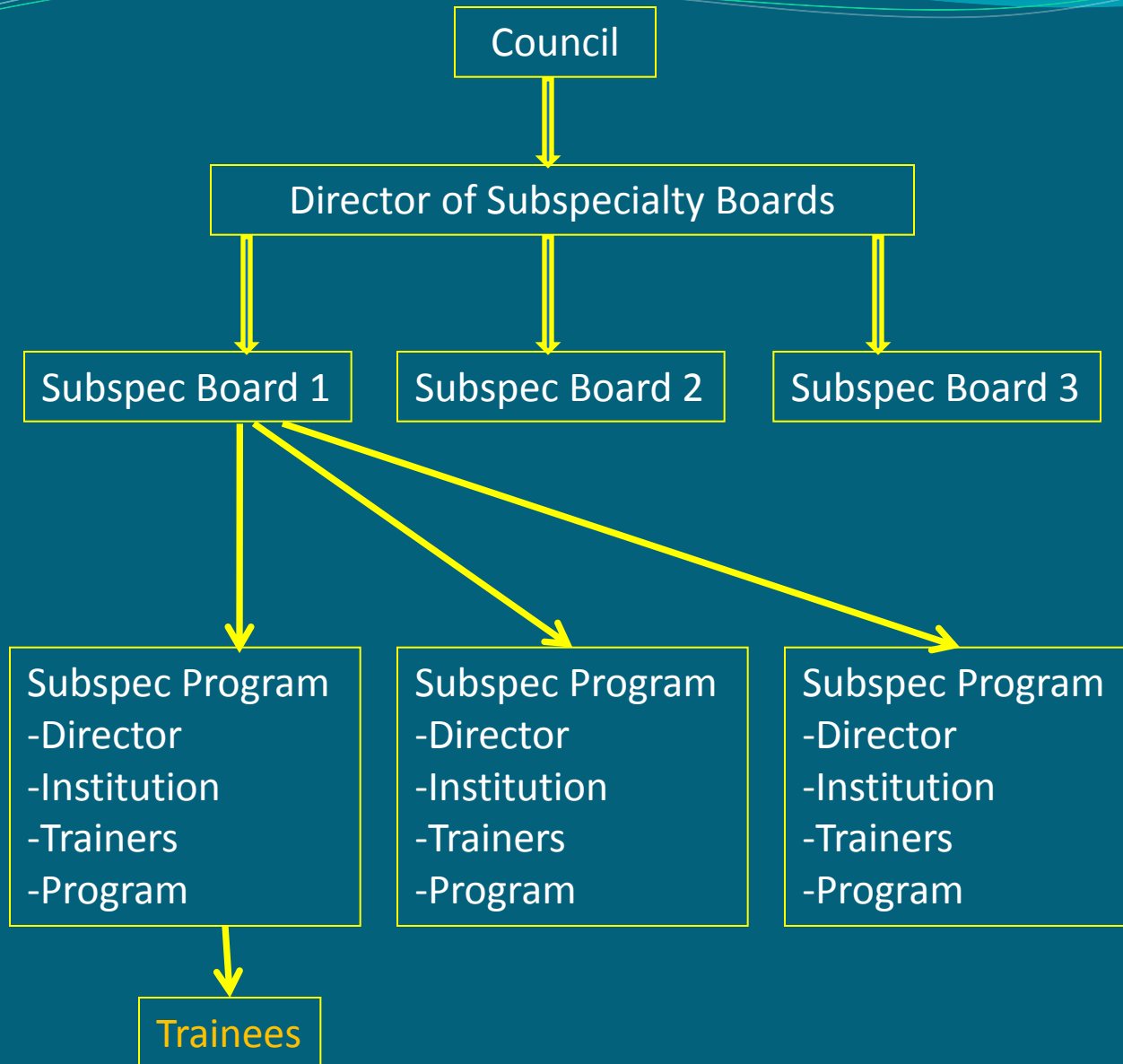
Criteria of accreditation of a Subspecialty Programme **Director**

- Has local, regional, international standing – memberships of societies, invited lectures, participation in international meetings
- Full-time employment in an accredited institution, >50% of activity in that subspecialty
- Holds certificates of competency if technically complex skills are required in that subspecialty
- To be re-accredited once every 3 years



Criteria for accreditation of Trainers in a Subspecialty Programme

- Fellow of our College in that Subspecialty
- At least 5 years of good practice, excluding training period
- Actively involved in teaching, research, service
- Fulfills CME/CPD requirements
- Full-time employment in accredited institution, >50% of activity in that subspecialty during the period of supervising subspecialty trainees
- Supervise no more than 2 trainees in either Subspecialty Programme or Higher Training in General Paediatrics, and no more than 3 trainees in total at any time
- Re-accredited once every 3 years



Criteria of **Trainees** Accreditation

- All training should be approved by Accreditation Committee, Program Director, Subspecialty Board
- **Entry**: intermediate examination or equivalent; submit application at end of first year of Higher Training in General Paediatrics
- **Full-time** training (>50% of time spent in that subspecialty)
- Keep **log book** of educational activities & cases
- Make **2 presentations** in local or regional meetings
- Submit **2 dissertations** for assessment (one must have been accepted for publication in journal)
- Encouraged to attend training courses locally or overseas

How about practising subspecialists?

First Fellows = first batch of subspecialty Fellows

Guidelines for admission of “First Fellows” in a new subspecialty by HKAM

- Has to be a Fellow of the HKAM
- Training & clinical competence is comparable to the standard required for a Fellow in the new subspecialty
- Has a minimum period of good practice in the field of the subspecialty that is twice the duration required for formal training programme.
- Passed an assessment by the College, comparable to that required for the formal training programme (preferably by a panel with at least one external independent member)

College Criteria for admitting “First Fellows” in a new subspecialty

- A Fellow of HKAM(Paediatrics)
- Undergone recognised supervised training in that subspecialty for 3 years, or
- Alternatively, full-time supervised training for not less than 6 months, AND a period of good independent practice of twice the duration required for fulfilling the remaining of the 3 years of formal training.
- Good independent practice is demonstrated by workload, educational activities, publications, audits
- ? Assessment by Subspecialty Board, final decision by College

Time-frame:

- Start recruiting First Fellows when the subspecialty is approved by HKAM Council
- Training programme should start **within 24 months after approval** of the subspecialty by the HKAM Council, and College should cease admitting First Fellows when such formal training programme has started
- There will be **no remedial programme** for trainees not fulfilling First Fellow requirements at cut-off date

Title of a paediatric subspecialist?

- Fellow of HKAM (Paediatrics)
- Fellow of HKC Paed
- Board certified in that subspecialty (?? not quotable for First Fellows)
- Either “Specialist in Paediatrics”
or “Specialist in Paediatric Subspecialty” (but not both at any one time)