

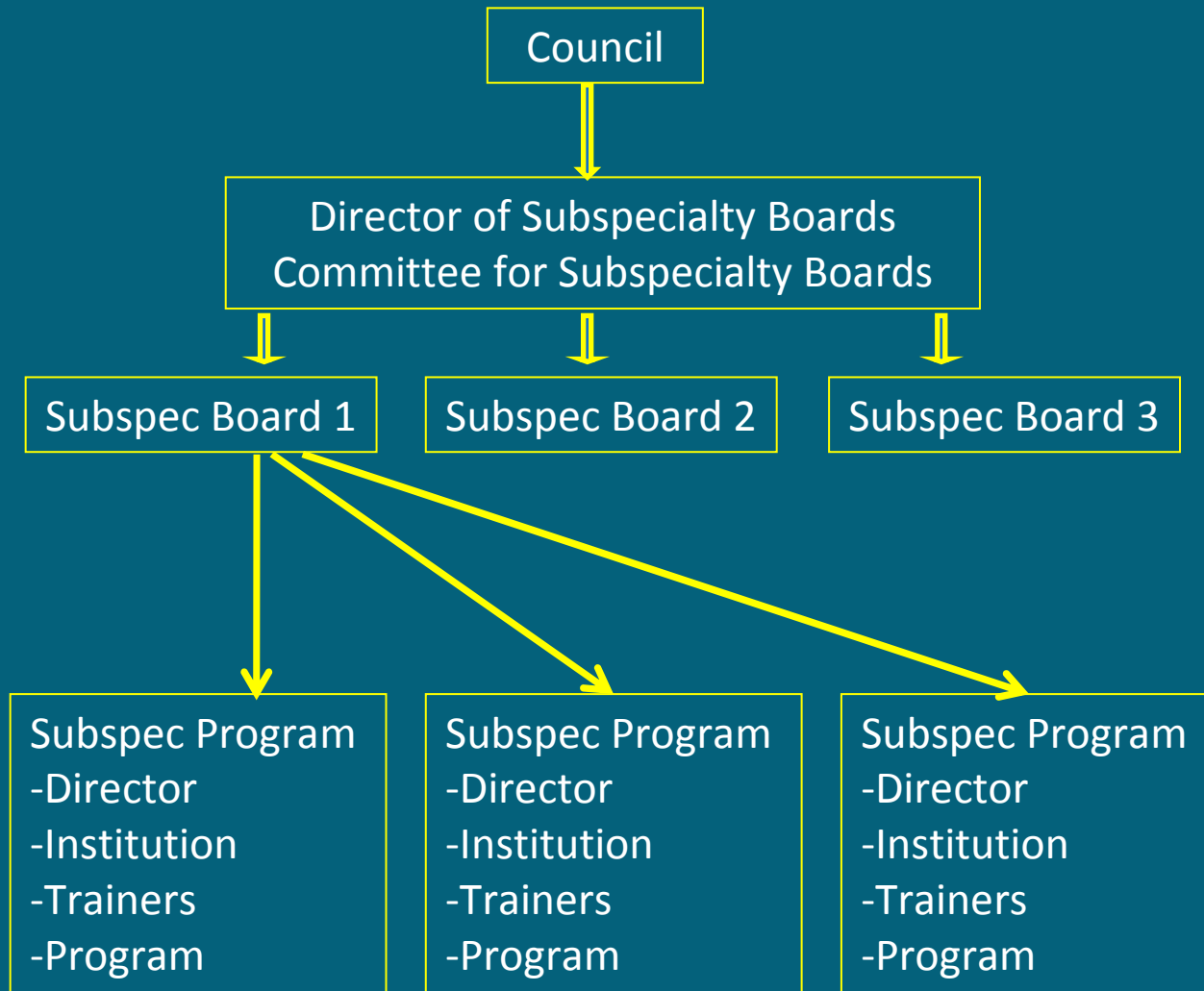
Guidelines on Criteria for Accreditation of a Paediatric Subspecialty Training Programme

*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



Byelaw Section 10 – Subspecialty Affairs

(endorsed by Council on 11 May 09)

- *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.

Director of Subspecialty Boards

- 10.1. 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.
 - a senior Fellow with at least 10 years post College Fellowship experience and
 - good professional standing and experience in Paediatrics and Child Health.

Committee for Subspecialty Boards

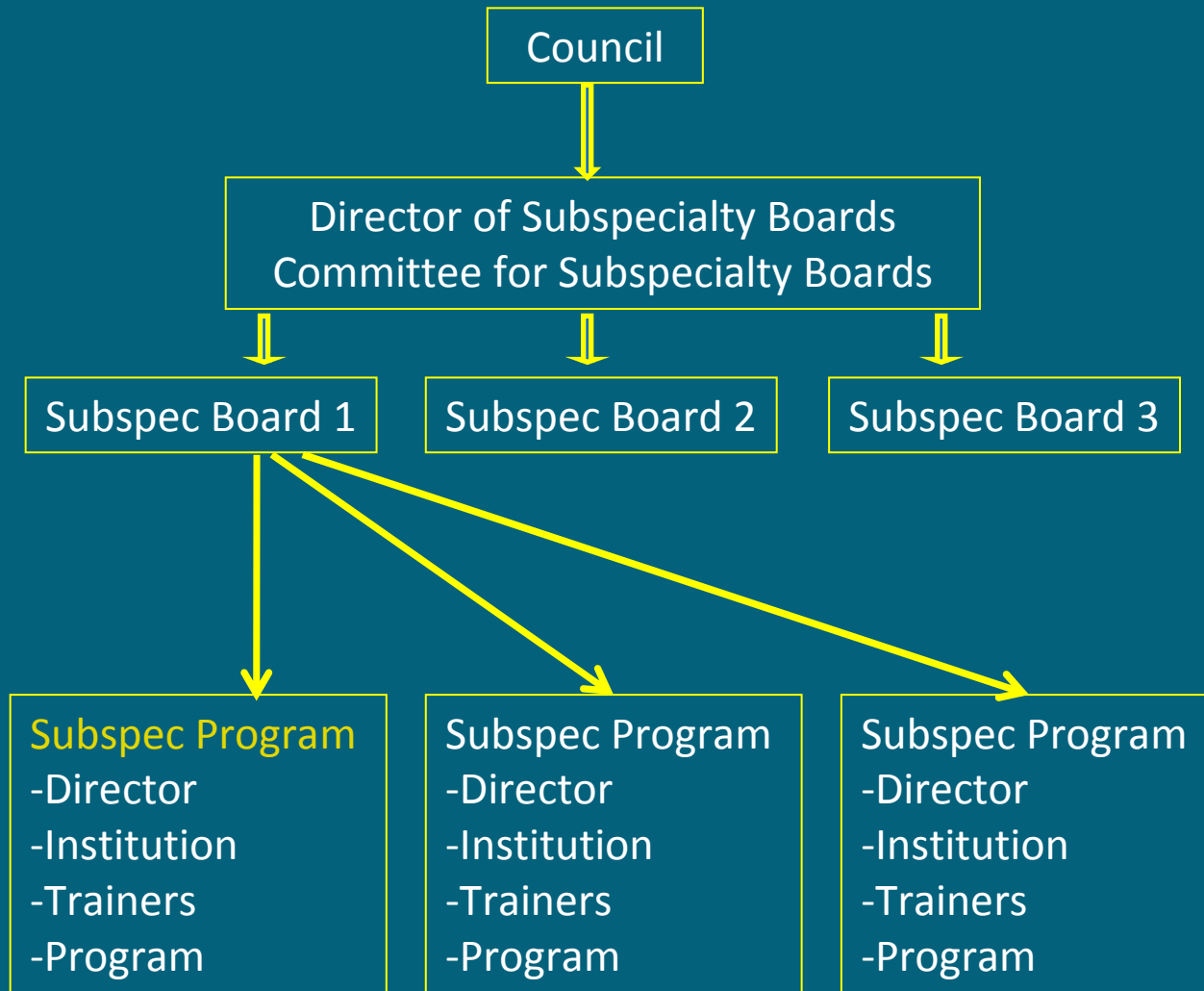
- 10.2. A Committee for Subspecialty Boards shall be formed to assist the Director of Subspecialty Boards in his/her duties. The membership of the Committee will comprise
 - the chairpersons of Accreditation, Education, and Examination Committees,
 - the chairperson of each established Subspecialty Board,
 - 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.

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

- Accredite 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

Proposed infrastructure



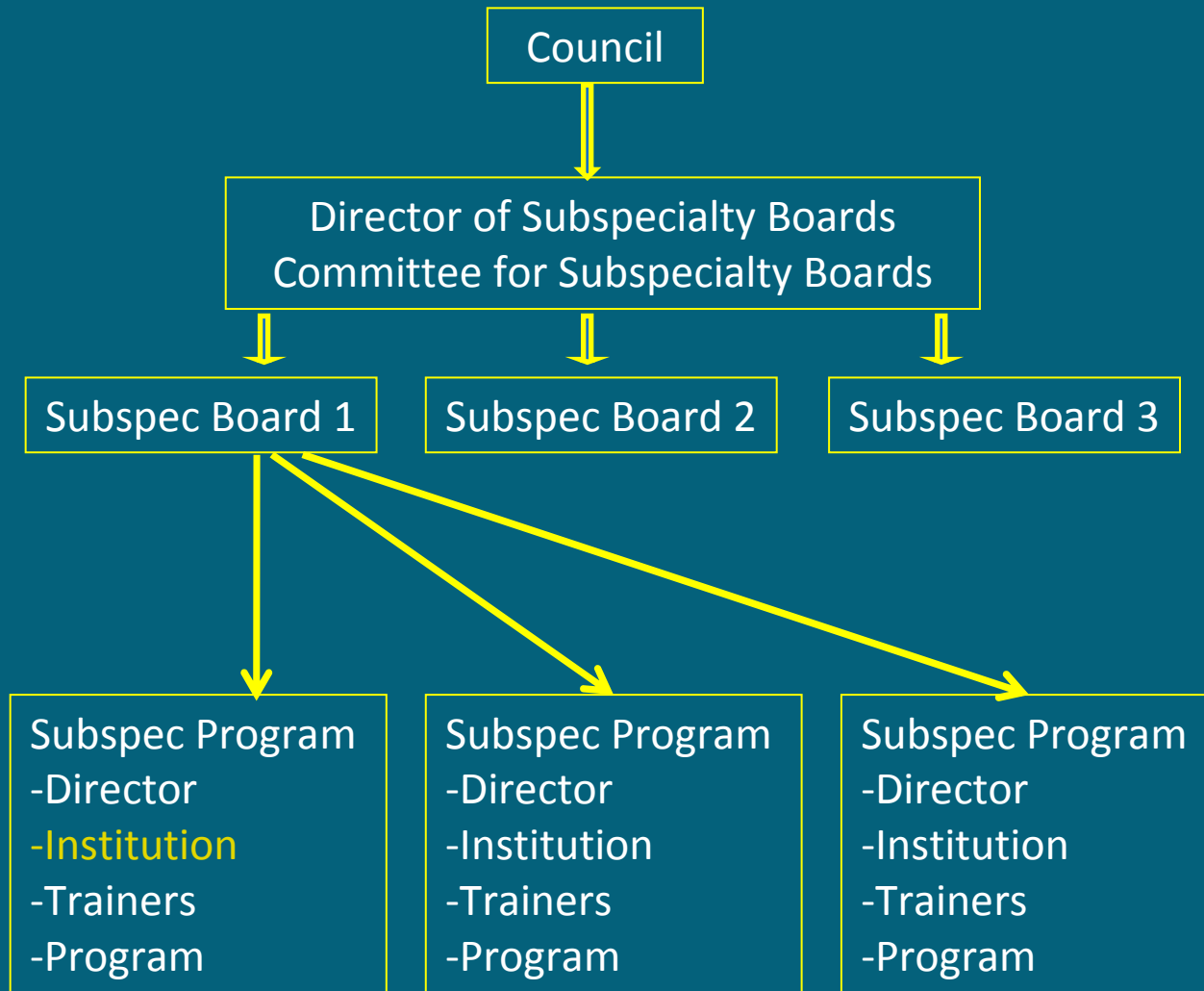
Criteria of a Subspecialty Programme

- 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

Proposed infrastructure

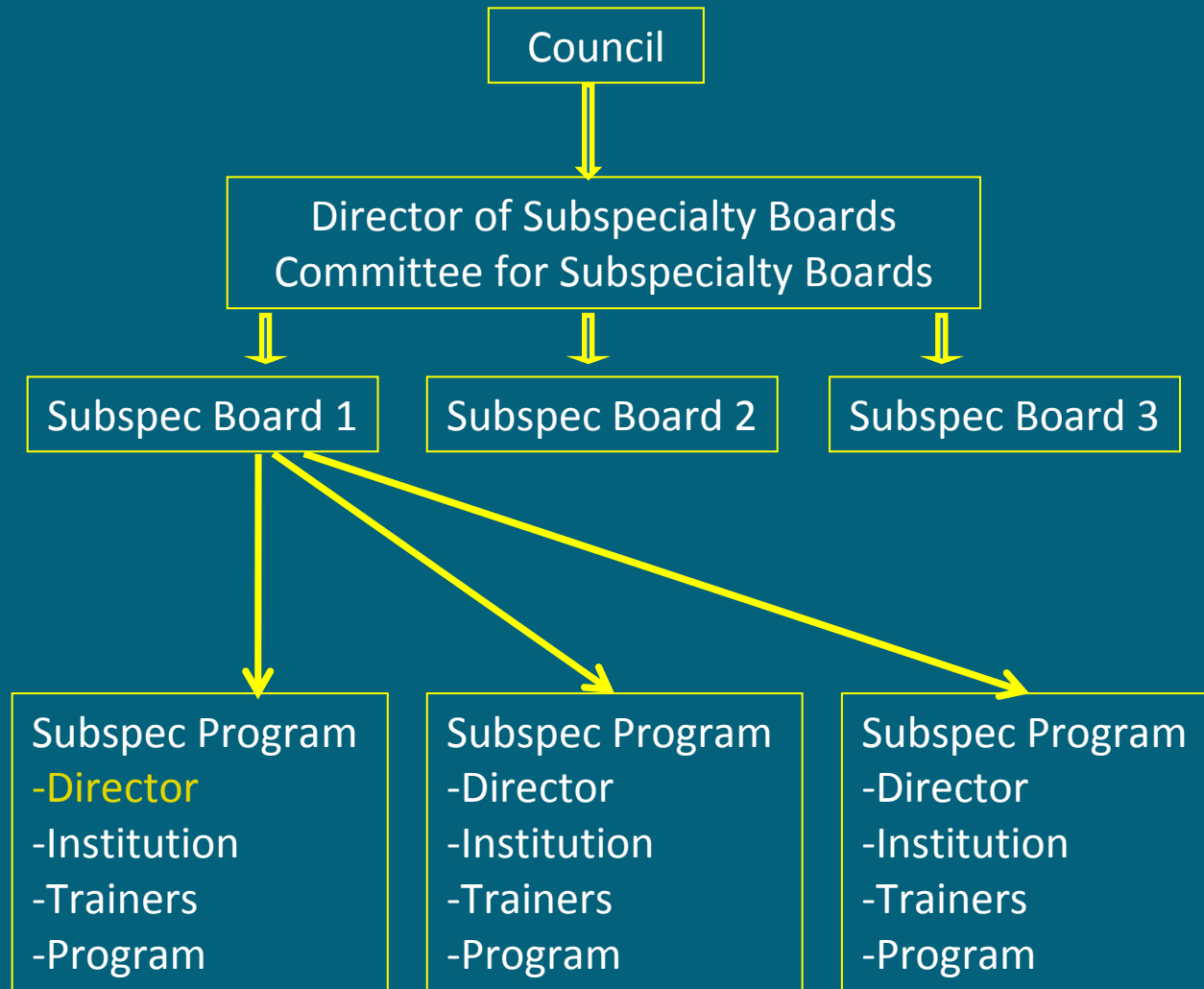


Criteria of a **Training Institution** in Subspecialty Programme

- 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

Proposed infrastructure



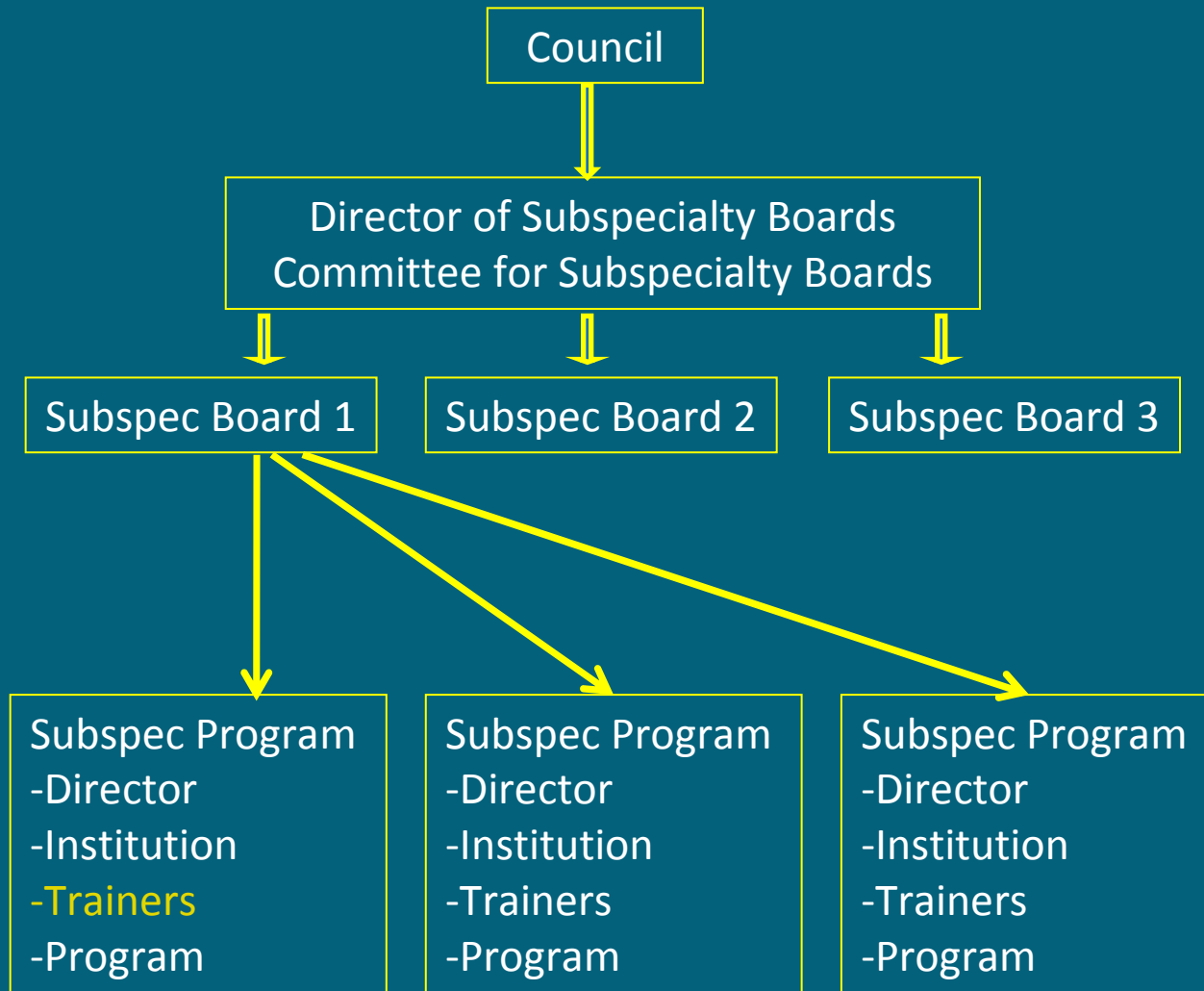
Criteria of accreditation of a Subspecialty Programme **Director**

- 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

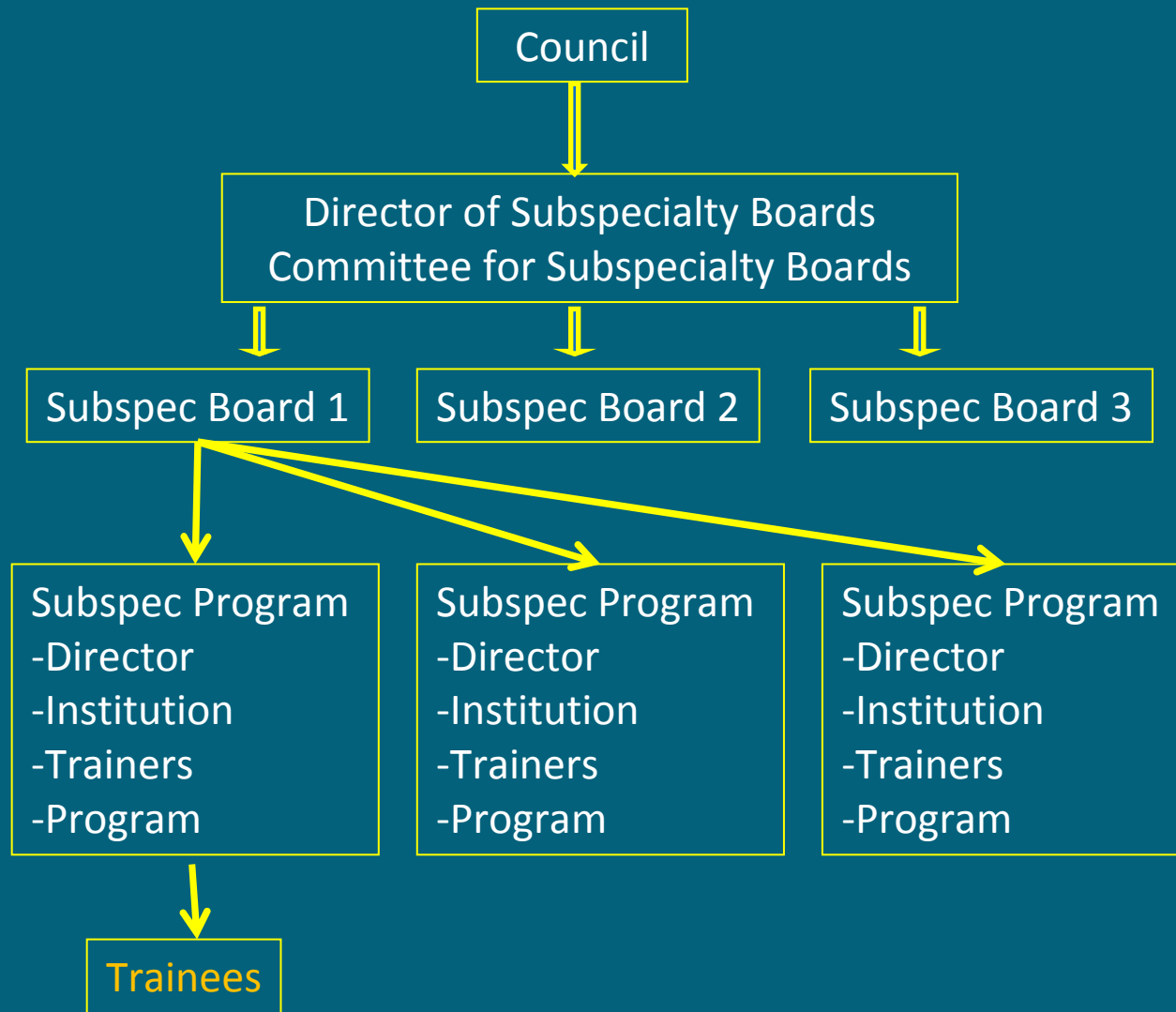
Proposed infrastructure



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

Proposed infrastructure



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)

Extract from HKAM Council Meeting, 21 August 2003

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 (**cutoff date**)
- There will be **no remedial programme** for trainees not fulfilling First Fellow requirements at cut-off date

Special one-off remedial arrangement for Fellows having substantial subspecialty experience but not meeting admission criteria at the cut-off date

- have already fulfilled *at least 75%* of the requirement
- registered with the College on or before the cut-off date of their intention to follow this special one-off arrangement
- undergo a supervised training programme, content and format to be decided by the College, to **make up for the shortage** of experience/exposure requirements
- pass the **Exit Examination** of the subspecialty

Extract from HKAM Council Meeting, 16 July 2009

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)