**Higher Specialist Training in Intensive Care Medicine**

**June 2022**

A CSCST in Intensive Care Medicine is awarded to those trainees enrolled and registered to the JFICMI Higher Specialist Training (HST) Programme in Intensive Care Medicine who have a CSCST (or equivalent) in their core specialty and have:

1. completed 24 months HST ICM training in JFICMI-accredited training hospitals in Ireland
2. successfully completed the Fellowship JFICMI examination
3. satisfied all criteria for completion of training (including clinical competencies, professionalism competencies, courses, research project, ICM logbook and in-training assessments)

**A. Higher Specialist Training in Intensive Care Medicine – Anaesthesiology Pathway**

The CAI SAT Scheme for Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine is currently unique amongst the postgraduate training body schemes in that training in intensive care medicine is a mandatory component of the training scheme and is a consistent element of training exposure throughout the 6 year scheme, including a minimum 18 months of ICM on-call scheduling.

The current curriculum for anaesthesiology SAT programme includes a minimum of 6 months ICM training in 2 month modules. The potential opportunity exists to acquire more modules as per specific interest of the trainee, contingent on such modules being accessible in JFICMI-accredited centres to which the trainee is rotated during the SAT programme.

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| **Specialty Modular Units:** *a longer period in a subspecialty or dual specialty area. This concerns four distinct disciplines*   * Anaesthesiology and Analgesia for Obstetric Care (6 months with 6 months on call commitment) * Anaesthesiology for Paediatric Surgery (6 month module) * Intensive Care Medicine (3x2 month modules) * Pain Medicine (2 month module) | |
| **Out of Hours Rostering:** | |
| SAT 1-2 | 12-24 months Theatre on-call |
| SAT 2-5 | 18-24 months Intensive Care Medicine on-call  One ICM module prior to commencing call and an ICM module each year of call |
| SAT 5-6 | 12-18 months Senior (3rd) on-call |

*Figure 1: CAI Anaesthesiology SAT scheme requirements ICM*

The JFICMI offers 2 training grades in accredited ICM training posts:

1. *Clinical Fellow in Intensive Care Medicine* – this applies to trainees in Year 1 of dedicated full time Intensive Care training. During this period a trainee should develop clinical skills in ICM in a continuum of training of 6 months to one year and should sit the FJFICMI examination. See HST programme and curriculum.

**Recognition of CAI Anaesthesiology SAT scheme ICM training modules for Year 1 of ICM training:**

Up to 12 months of ICM modules can be submitted to the JFICMI for recognition of training. *At least 4 of these 12 months must be in the last 2 years of training*. Where a trainee has not completed 12 months of recognised training within SAT scheme, competitive entry to a post of JFICMI Clinical Fellow in Intensive Care Medicine in blocks of 6 months to one year affords the trainee the opportunity to complete one year of training and to sit the JFICMI Fellowship examination. The doctor at this stage will have CSCST (or equivalent) in Anaesthesiology plus at least one year ICM training and will have sat or passed the FJFICMI examination, and is therefore eligible to progress to an Advanced Clinical Fellow post in ICM.

**SAT 7 Year:**

The SAT 7 year at the end of CSCST Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, where the candidate elects to apply for an intensive care medicine SAT 7 year, shall be deemed to be a Clinical Fellow or Advanced Clinical Fellow post depending on the duration of the trainee’s previous accredited modular training and whether the trainee has passed or sat the FJFICMI examination.

1. *Advanced Clinical Fellow in Intensive Care Medicine* - this applies to trainees in Year 2 of dedicated full time Intensive Care training. During this period a trainee should develop advanced clinical skills in ICM in a continuum of training of up to one year and complete advanced training modules/special interests consistent with the HST programme and curriculum.

Pathways to completion of HST in ICM and anaesthesiology can therefore be summarised as:

CSCST in ICM

Eligible for “Consultant in intensive care medicine” post

\*FJFICMI examination: see Examinations section on website re eligibility, application process, progression. The FJFICMI must be attempted within the first 12 months of recognised accredited JFICMI training, with a recommendation that those candidates within the SAT scheme have completed 10 months of that training. The examination rules allow that a candidate can progress into the advanced clinical fellow grade provided one attempt has been made at the examination. Completion of HST in ICM mandates that the candidate be successful at FJFICMI examination.

**B. Higher Specialist Training in Intensive Care Medicine – Internal Medicine Pathway**

The JFICMI offers 2 training grades in accredited ICM training posts:

1. *Clinical Fellow in Intensive Care Medicine* – this applies to trainees in Year 1 of dedicated full time Intensive Care training. During this period a trainee should develop clinical skills in ICM in a continuum of training of a minimum of 2 months up to one year and should sit the FJFICMI examination. In line with anaesthesiology training, a maximum of 2 months *without on-call duties* can be recognised for ICM training.

**Recognition of RCPI Internal Medicine HST scheme ICM training modules for Year 1 of ICM training:**

Up to 12 months of ICM modules can be submitted to the JFICMI for recognition of training. *At least 4 of these 12 months must be in the last 2 years of training*. Where a trainee has not completed 12 months of recognised training within an RCPI HST scheme, competitive entry to a post of JFICMI Clinical Fellow in Intensive Care Medicine in blocks of 6 months to one year affords the trainee the opportunity to complete one year of training and to sit the FJFICMI examination. The doctor at this stage will have CSCST (or equivalent) in a recognised specialty of internal medicine plus at least one year ICM training and will have sat or passed the FJFICMI examination, and is eligible to apply either for an internal medicine consultant post with a special interest in ICM or for an Advanced Clinical Fellow post in ICM.

1. *Advanced Clinical Fellow in Intensive Care Medicine* - this applies to trainees in Year 2 of dedicated full time Intensive Care training. During this period a trainee should develop advanced clinical skills in ICM in a continuum of training of up to one year and advanced training modules / special interests consistent with the HST programme and curriculum.

Pathways to completion of HST in ICM and internal medicine can therefore be summarised as:

CSCST in ICM

Eligible for “Consultant in intensive care medicine” post

\*FJFICMI examination: see Examinations section on website re eligibility, application process, progression. The FJFICMI must be attempted within the first 12 months of recognised accredited JFICMI training, with a recommendation that those candidates within the RCPI scheme have completed 10 months of that training. The examination rules allow that a candidate can progress into the advanced clinical fellow grade provided one attempt has been made at the examination. Completion of HST in ICM mandates that the candidate be successful at FJFICMI examination.

Anaesthesiology experience for RCPI trainees:

An accredited centre for ICM training must include one day per week (or equivalent) of dedicated anaesthesia training for internal medicine trainees in ICM training. The trainee, over the course of year 1 of ICM training must achieve 100 intubations. Of these 100 intubations, at least 20 must be undertaken in emergency circumstances (emergency anaesthesia, emergency department, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, intensive care patients). Competence with general airway management is required and attendance at a Difficult Airway Course is mandatory.

Duration of Training for Internal Medicine trainees in ICM:

The duration of training for an internal medicine trainee who wishes to complete specialty accreditation in intensive care medicine shall be governed by the duration of training of the choice of Higher Specialty Training scheme with the RCPI, with the added 2 years of supra-specialty intensive care medicine training.

**C. Higher Specialist Training in Intensive Care Medicine – Surgery or Emergency Medicine Pathway**

The JFICMI offers 2 training grades in accredited ICM training posts:

1. *Clinical Fellow in Intensive Care Medicine* – this applies to trainees in Year 1 of dedicated full time Intensive Care training. During this period a trainee should develop clinical skills in ICM in a continuum of training of a minimum of 2 months up to one year and should sit the FJFICMI examination. In line with anaesthesiology training, a maximum of 2 months *without on-call duties* can be recognised for ICM training.

**Recognition of RCSI Surgical Training Programme and Emergency Medicine scheme ICM training modules for Year 1 of ICM training:**

Up to 12 months of ICM modules can be submitted to the JFICMI for recognition of training. *At least 4 of these 12 months must be in the last 2 years of training*. Where a trainee has not completed 12 months of recognised training within an RCSI Surgical Training Programme or Emergency Medicine scheme, competitive entry to a post of JFICMI Clinical Fellow in Intensive Care Medicine in blocks of 6 months to one year affords the trainee the opportunity to complete one year of training and examination. The doctor at this stage will have CSCST (or equivalent) in a recognised surgical specialty or in emergency medicine plus at least one year ICM training and will have sat or passed the FJFICMI examination, and is eligible to progress to an Advanced Clinical Fellow post in ICM.

1. *Advanced Clinical Fellow in Intensive Care Medicine* - this applies to trainees in Year 2 of dedicated full time Intensive Care training. During this period a trainee should develop advanced clinical skills in ICM in a continuum of training of up to one year and advanced training modules / special interests consistent with the HST programme and curriculum.

Pathways to completion of HST in ICM and surgery/emergency medicine therefore can be summarised as:

CSCST in ICM

Eligible for “Consultant in intensive care medicine” post

\*FJFICMI examination: see Examinations section on website re eligibility, application process, progression. The FJFICMI must be attempted within the first 12 months of recognised accredited JFICMI training, with a recommendation that those candidates within the RCPI scheme have completed 10 months of that training. The examination rules allow that a candidate can progress into the advanced clinical fellow grade provided one attempt has been made at the examination. Completion of HST in ICM mandates that the candidate be successful at FJFICMI examination.

^This category of consultant appointment is anticipated with more graduates of the Clinical Fellow programme. To date surgical and emergency medicine appointments to intensive care medicine consultant posts have been dual specialised (ie. CSCST in recognised primary specialty and CSCST in intensive care medicine).

Anaesthesia experience for Surgery and Emergency Medicine trainees:

An accredited centre for ICM training must include one day per week (or equivalent) of dedicated anaesthesia training. The trainee, over the course of year 1 of ICM training must achieve 100 intubations Of these 100 intubations, at least 20 must be undertaken in emergency circumstances (emergency anaesthesia, emergency department, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, intensive care patients). Competence with general airway management is required and attendance at a Difficult Airway course is mandatory.

Duration of Training for Surgery and Emergency Medicine trainees in ICM:

The duration of training for an internal medicine trainee who wishes to complete specialty accreditation in intensive care medicine shall be governed by the duration of training of the choice of Higher Specialty Training scheme with the RCPI, with the added supra-specialty intensive care medicine training duration.

**D. Award of CSCST in ICM upon completion of JFICMI HST Programme:**

A CSCST in ICM shall be awarded to all trainees who have completed the JFICMI HST programme in Intensive Care Medicine.

Such doctors shall be eligible for entry on the Specialist Division of the Medical Register in Intensive Care Medicine as per the Medical Council regulations.

Medical Council Recognition of Intensive Care Medicine:

FRAMEWORK OF PROGRAMME FOR HIGHER SPECIALIST TRAINING IN INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE IN IRELAND is defined as follows:

Programme Duration: The programme duration is ordinarily seven years of specialist training. This comprises satisfactory completion and accreditation to CSCST level in the candidate’s primary speciality (Anaesthesia, Medicine, Emergency Medicine or Surgery) and 2 years dedicated, supervised higher specialty (supra-specialty) training in Intensive Care Medicine. The total duration will be variable for candidates of differing specialty background as determined by the CSCST requirements of their primary specialty; two years of competency based, specialty training in Intensive Care Medicine, as defined and supervised by the JFICMI, is required of trainees of all specialty background.

Please note that the JFICMI makes no distinction between those doctors entered on the Specialist Division of the Medical Register in their primary specialty via a CSCST pathway or an equivalence pathway.