**Bulletin 2: 15 February 2021** 

This week's bulletin provides information on the Medical Trainer Agreement (Secondary Care and Undergraduate Education), including the benefits that it brings and how to sign up in order to become a recognised trainer.

**Training for Excellence** 

## The Medical Trainer Agreement (Secondary Care and Undergraduate Education)

The Medical Trainer Agreement (Secondary Care and Undergraduate Education) was rolled out across NHS Wales in November 2018. The Agreement is between a recognised trainer, a Local Education Provider (LEP), and an Education Organiser (in Wales the Education Organisers are HEIW and/or Cardiff or Swansea University Medical Schools) and is the mechanism by which the Education Organisers in Wales identify and recommend individuals for formal recognition as trainers by the GMC.

The Agreement clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of each party, and in signing up to it, LEPs, Education Organisers and individual trainers demonstrate their commitment to the trainer role including the development and provision of high quality education and training and the provision of a suitable, supportive learning environment. Ultimately, this will contribute to enhanced quality of patient care, leading to improved patient safety.

A copy of the Agreement, including the specific requirements set out within it, can be viewed on HEIW's web pages at <a href="https://quality.walesdeanery.org/sites/default/files/all-wales medical trainer agreement.pdf">https://quality.walesdeanery.org/sites/default/files/all-wales medical trainer agreement.pdf</a>

All individuals who undertake one or more of the four trainer roles requiring recognition by the GMC in undergraduate medicine and / or Foundation, Core or Higher postgraduate medical training (including less than full time training) must sign up to the Agreement.

As a reminder, the four roles requiring recognition by the GMC are:

## **POSTGRADUATE TRAINING:**

- named Educational Supervisors
- named Clinical Supervisors

#### **UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:**

- those responsible for overseeing students' progress at each medical school
- lead co-ordinators at each LEP

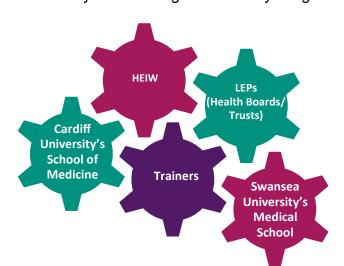
GPs who act as trainers in the context of training in secondary care environments or for undergraduate medical students (and who are not already subject to the GMC's separate, statutory process for the approval of GP Trainers) are also required to sign the Agreement.

# **Key Benefits of the Agreement**

Incorporating all four roles into one Agreement provides a streamlined and consistent approach to the development, delivery, management and support of trainer roles in secondary care and undergraduate trainers in Wales and enables individuals to move 'fluidly' between the training roles.

The roll out of the Medical Trainer Agreement across NHS Wales also brings many other benefits and these include:

- professionalising the trainer roles and providing formal recognition as a trainer
- formalising a trainer's commitment to the trainer role and high quality education and training in a supportive training environment
- enhancing communication and accountability between all parties involved in the delivery of education and training
- supporting the consideration of training roles within the job planning process to enable the allocation of protected time and resources to deliver the training role(s)
- supporting the consideration of trainer roles as part of NHS whole practice appraisal / Performance Development Review to support individuals' development as a trainer
- enabling access to appropriate training and professional development for the role
- enabling access to Eduroam (in Health Boards / Trusts where Eduroam has been rolled out)
- fostering a supportive community of practice with a shared interest in training excellence
- raising the profile of medical education and training in Wales, thereby increasing its attractiveness as a graduate destination and improving recruitment and retention
- enabling HEIW and Cardiff and Swansea University's Medical Schools to demonstrate that they are meeting the statutory obligations to the GMC in relation to Trainer Recognition



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Working together to promote excellence in medical education and training across NHS Wales through the development, provision and support of high quality education and training

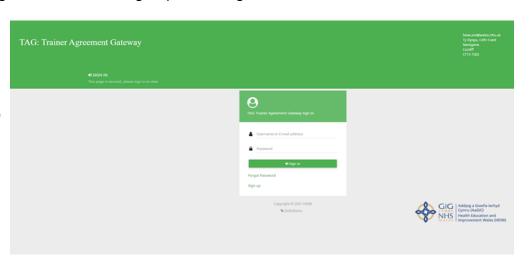
# How to Sign the Agreement and Become a Trainer in Wales

Before signing up to become a recognised trainer in Wales, individuals are required to:

- check the eligibility criteria to find out whether or not they are eligible to take on a particular training role
- have a conversation with their Clinical Director/Specialty Lead to find out what trainer role opportunities are available in their locale and specialty

Only individuals who expect to be active trainers within a reasonable timeframe and wish to professionalise themselves as a trainer and work to meet the requirements contained in the Agreement should sign up to the Agreement.

The Agreement is hosted online via the Trainer Agreement Gateway (TAG)



## TO SIGN UP INDIVIDUALS MUST:

- request the weblink to the TAG system and details of how to sign up from their Specialty Lead / Training Programme Director, local Education Centre or Education Organiser (HEIW or Cardiff or Swansea University Medical Schools)
- create an account in TAG
- enter their personal details
- digitally sign the e-Agreement

Once trainers have signed up to the Agreement, the Education Organiser will recommend them for formal recognition by the GMC and their 'trainer' status will be reflected on their record on the GMC's List of Registered Medical Practitioners. In order to remain as recognised trainers, individuals must demonstrate that they are meeting the requirements of the Agreement on an ongoing basis and ensure that their details in TAG remain up to date.

For further information on the trainer recognition process in Wales please email HEIW's Quality Unit at HEIW.SRE@wales.nhs.uk

**Next Edition (due out week beginning 1 March 2021):** 

Requirements of the trainer roles and opportunities for professional development.