

SPECIFICATION FOR DIPLOMAS IN PAEDIATRICS AND CHILD HEALTH

1.0 PREAMBLE

This specification outlines the training requirements for a diploma level of training in Paediatrics and Child Health offered by the Universities of Auckland and Otago. It is based on information on the Diploma Courses provided by the Universities, including:

Auckland

- University Calendar
- Prospectus
- Training requirement information.

Otago

- University Calendar
- Distance Learning Prospectus
- Course Workbook General Information section

Additional information was supplied by Course Directors. Background information was also obtained from the Review of the Diploma of Paediatrics and Child Health (1996) commissioned by the Board of the Clinical Training Agency.

Terms are defined in the CTA Head Agreement and/or Service Agreement.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

A Diploma in Paediatrics is offered by the University of Auckland and a Postgraduate Diploma in Child Health is offered by the University Otago. These diplomas provide an academic and practical training in hospital and community child health and management of common paediatric problems. Both are offered on a distance learning basis throughout New Zealand (ie, are not limited to the University sites).

The objective is to give a sound practical and academic grounding in the management of common and important paediatric problems, the role of a range of service providers in child health and a working knowledge of important areas of paediatrics not covered in the undergraduate years. Management of both acute and chronic conditions and developmental difficulties are included in the course. It is particularly relevant for trainees intending to enter general practice. It is also useful for specialists entering other branches of medicine who also work with children such as anaesthetics, orthopaedics, emergency medicine and others. It may also provide an introduction to the specialty where practitioners are unsure of their career direction.

The community diary exercise in the Diploma course can be cross credited to the community paediatrics component of FRACP training.

Training is for a full time equivalent minimum of six months (Otago) and one academic year (Auckland). The course is usually completed within one year.

The formal academic component is provided by a series of lectures [videotaped for distance learning] (Auckland) or audio conference discussion and tutorials (Otago), complemented by written course material, recommended reading, written assignments or a dissertation and self directed learning based around the topics covered by the syllabus.

The practical and clinical component is provided in an approved hospital post under the supervision of local tutors. Previous experience may be credited for the clinical experience component of the course.

Assessment includes written assignments or a dissertation, review of log book records of community visits and written, clinical and oral examinations (including data interpretation).

2.1 LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Learning is based on formal tuition in a university setting and practical experience in a clinical setting (hospital or community based). This includes community visits to services catering to the health needs of children outside hospitals.

The learning is in a wider context of the medico legal, cultural and ethical considerations of clinical practice. It also includes aspects of preventive care, health promotion, health service delivery systems and how teams of health providers function.

2.1.1 Clinical Placements

Clinical experience is gained in hospital posts in paediatric departments of accredited hospitals. During the course trainees are required to undertake six months of practical paediatrics in a hospital post at senior house officer or registrar level.

The clinical supervisors are available to trainees to discuss clinical experiences and reflect on them so that experience turns into learning.

Trainees are expected to keep up with and be able to discuss current advances and publications in paediatrics.

Community experience is gained by a series of community visits which are written up in the form of a log book and submitted as part of the course assessments. Auckland requires 12 community visits to be written up in one report of 1500 words. Otago requires a brief (1 - 1.5 page) report on each visit (number not specified).

The aim of community visits is to acquire a knowledge of community based health services for children and youth and to develop an understanding of the issues concerning the delivery of community based services to this group. The community visits include visits to child health, education and social service facilities, and participation in a range of child related community activities including primary health care. These should include visits to facilities and services for children with special needs who have chronic disease or disability.

All aspects of workplace safety are the responsibility of the service provider.

2.1.2 Formal Teaching

The academic component of the course is taught to the relevant university curriculum.

Otago

Otago formal education is based on distance learning programmes in two papers organised by a course director and module tutors, who attend the audio-conference sessions. Trainees must attend all audio-conferences.

The teaching is divided into two papers which both include academic and practical parts as follows:

- One paper with 17 one hour audio conferences plus
- Written assignments and
- Community visits (see clinical placements).
- A second paper with 16 one hour audio-conferences plus
- 20 formal tutorial sessions arranged locally one - two hours per week
- Clinical teaching and experience of clinical duties as a house surgeon or registrar in an approved hospital post (see clinical placements)

Six assignments are completed on topics related to any of the 15 module topics. These are expected to take two hours of trainees time and form part of the overall assessment.

Supervisors are required to arrange teaching of clinical skills locally, and to have observed the satisfactory attainment of these skills for trainees to present for examination.

Auckland

There are five elements which make up the course, three academic and two practical.

The academic elements are:

- Self instruction based around a weekly topic for which background reading material and a patient management problem is provided to stimulate problem based learning.
- Lecture course for one hour a week. This is available on video for trainees outside of Auckland. Total 25 hours.
- A dissertation on a chosen topic of 4,000 to 5,000 words.

The practical clinical elements are:

- Clinical duties as a house surgeon or registrar for at least six months under the supervision of a specialist paediatrician.
- A 'log book' record of experience in community aspects of child health. A minimum of 12 community visits are to be made.

2.1.3 Access to resources

To meet the objectives of the diploma course, the trainee requires access to:

- A university academic teaching programme (distance learning, lectures, tutorials or other courses of study) and appropriate facilities and staff for this.
- Supervised clinical training situations with the opportunity for reflective learning
- Clinical experience relevant to the future needs of the trainees
- A range of tutors
- Experience in community services via community visits
- Equipment and therapeutic modalities appropriate to the level of clinical practice
- Adequate library facilities with relevant and up to date journals, textbooks and other relevant material, and access to literature databases
- Group discussion facilities.

A broad range of staff is expected to have input into the trainees learning experiences.

2.2 SUPERVISORS

2.2.1 Clinical Supervision

Each hospital has a local clinical supervisor who supervises all trainees at that site. This may also be their clinical consultant. Clinical supervision includes knowledge and skills based experiential learning and reflective practice. Their main role is to help trainees turn their clinical experience into a learning experience.

Supervisors are required to have observed the satisfactory attainment of clinical skills for trainees to present for examination.

Supervisors are required to report to the Course Director on each trainee near the end of their clinical attachment and prior to sitting the exit examinations. The report details how well the trainee has performed their clinical duties.

All supervisors are approved by the Course Director.

2.2.2 Educational Supervision

Educational supervision is provided by the course tutors and overseen by the course director. This includes formal lectures and tutorials, and opportunities for reflective learning on clinical experiences.

The Course Director is available to all trainees for educational supervision.

2.3 PROGRAMME COORDINATION

In Otago the two papers which constitute the Postgraduate Diploma each have a Course Director who organises the teaching courses, academic tutors and supervisors, clinical supervisors, assessments and examinations.

In Auckland there is one overall course supervisor who organises the teaching course, academic and clinical supervisors, assessments and examinations.

All clinical supervisors have to be approved by the Course Director.

2.4 EXPECTED OUTCOMES

To be awarded a Diploma trainees have to fulfil all the requirements of the relevant University papers, summarised in the following table.

Milestone	Criteria - Auckland	Criteria - Otago
Duration of clinical experience	Six months minimum in a house surgeon or registrar post in an approved hospital. This requirement may be fulfilled prior to enrolment.	A minimum of 26 weeks in a hospital post approved for this purpose.
Academic course of study completed	Course of lectures attended.	<u>All</u> audio-conferences attended. Formal tutorials attended.
Performance of clinical duties	A report from the candidates consultant stating that the performance of clinical duties was satisfactory.	Report from the Clinical Supervisor on performance of clinical duties.
Log book of community experience	Report on at least 12 community visits	Reports on Visits to child health, education and social service facilities.
Written assessments	A dissertation of 4,000 - 5,000 words completed.	Six written assignments completed.
Pass in Examinations	A written, clinical and oral examination and objective structured clinical examination (OSCE).	Two written examinations. An exit assessment - objective structured clinical examination (OSCE), which utilises real parents with their children presenting with real abnormal clinical signs.

A pass in all course components is required.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY

3.1 TRAINEE ELIGIBILITY

To be accepted into the Diploma Course, trainees must:

- Hold an undergraduate medical degree recognised in New Zealand; and
- Hold general registration with the Medical Council of New Zealand; and Have satisfactory previous clinical experience (12 months minimum, Auckland) approved by the Academic Head; and
- Be currently occupying an accredited Paediatric post (Otago)

Medical graduates who do not meet the above criteria will be considered on a case by case basis.

3.2 PROVIDER ELIGIBILITY

The Diploma courses are currently offered by the Universities of Auckland and Otago.

Clinical posts providing clinical experience are approved / accredited by the Universities.

4.0 LOCATION AND SETTING

The academic component of the course will be provided by Auckland or Otago University by either on site or distance learning.

The clinical component of the course is provided under approved supervision in a hospital.

Any secondment of a registrar to another location for further training experience must comply with Part 9 of the CTA Head Agreement.

5.0 ASSOCIATED LINKAGES

You will have established links with:

- Royal Australasian College of Physicians
- Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners
- Paediatric Society.
- Other associated medical Colleges
- Community agencies providing paediatric services
- Child Health groups
- Patient Advocacy services for Code of Health and Disability Services Consumer Rights and Privacy issues

6.0 PURCHASE UNIT AND REPORTING UNIT

6.1 PURCHASE UNIT

A training unit trainee enrolled in a University Diploma course and in an accredited clinical training post (refer Section 3.1).

A training unit trainee who is concurrently enrolled in another PECT programme such as the Postgraduate Diploma in Obstetrics/Diploma in Obstetrics and Gynaecology or Basic Physician Training in Paediatrics, will be funded at one rate only, whichever is greater.

Part time trainees who are funded under this contract will be funded on a pro-rata training unit basis.

6.2 REPORTING UNIT

Students by gender, self declared ethnicity and work location.

The number of students awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Child Health or Diploma in Paediatrics.

7.0 PROGRAMME SPECIFIC QUALITY STANDARDS

*This section should be read in conjunction with Schedule 1 Part 3 of the CTA Head Agreement, which specifies **generic** quality standards for all programmes provided under the contract.*

7.1 LEARNING ENVIRONMENT QUALITY STANDARDS

The training programme will be regularly reviewed and evaluated on the content and style of delivery of the training programme.

7.2 EDUCATIONAL SUPERVISION QUALITY STANDARDS

Educational supervision will be provided to a standard that ensures:

- Students receive assistance with their learning skills.
- Processes are in place to identify students who require additional support, and appropriate action is taken.

7.3 PROGRAMME COORDINATION QUALITY STANDARDS

Programmes will be co-ordinated to a standard that ensures:

- Reports are provided by the due date.
- Records of students' training are kept and are available.

8.0 PROGRAMME SPECIFIC REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

*This section should be read in conjunction with Schedule 1 Part 1 of the CTA Head Agreement, which specifies **generic** reporting requirements for all programmes provided under the contract.*

8.1 PROGRESS REPORTING

Section 2.4 of the specification details the outcomes of the training programme.

8.2 QUALITY REPORTING

Reports as described in Schedule 1 Part 1 of the CTA Head Agreement require a summary of the programme. Schedule 1 Part 3 of the CTA Head Agreement requires that the provider will have a quality plan in place for the ongoing monitoring of the training provided. The summary should refer to the outcomes of this internal quality management and make reference to the programme specific quality standards in Section 7.0 above.