

Article 14 applications in Cardiothoracic Surgery

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Article 14 enables doctors who wish to join the Specialist Register who have not followed a full PMETB approved Certificate of completion of Training (CCT) programme to apply under Article 14 of THE GENERAL AND SPECIALIST MEDICAL PRACTICE ORDER for a Certificate confirming Eligibility for Specialist Registration (CESR) ie enables them to join the specialist register.

This route to specialist registration differs from routes under previous legislation in that knowledge, skills and experience however gained can be taken into account provided that the applicant satisfies the 'entry' criteria. It is not just an assessment of training.

You can apply under 14 (4) if you are applying in a CCT specialty and 14(5) if you are applying in a non CCT specialty.

The 'entry' criteria for 14 (4) are that you have undertaken:

- specialist training in a CCT specialty and/or
- a specialist qualification in a CCT specialty.

Specialist training for this purpose should be for at least 6 months.

If you satisfy this then all your knowledge, skills and experience will be taken into account. The standard that you need to demonstrate is equivalence to a CCT in the specialty in question.

The 'entry' criteria for 14(5) are that you have undertaken:

- specialist training in a non-CCT specialty and/or
- a specialist qualification in a non-CCT specialty.

For 14(5) the qualification or training **has** to have been undertaken outside the UK in a non-CCT specialty that is recognised as a specialty outside the UK. In the case of specialist training it must have been at least 6 months in length. If you satisfy this then your knowledge, skills and experience will be taken into account. The standard you need to demonstrate is that of a day one consultant in the NHS.

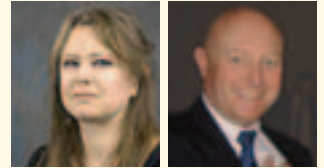
The implication for this for cardiothoracic surgery is that an applicant may be eligible to apply under 14(5) in thoracic surgery or cardiac surgery provided that they meet the 'overseas entry' requirements.

There is a further route to CESR under 14(5) which is the 'academic route'. This is unusual and is best explored at the PMETB website www.pmetb.org.uk.

How to apply

PMETB are the statutory body responsible for the Article 14 legislation and process. They may ask the colleges (devolved to the SAC in cardiothoracic surgery) and faculties to perform an evaluation but any decision is theirs.

Applications **must** be made directly to PMETB. Full details and application forms can be found on their website. www.pmetb.org.uk.



The standard that you must demonstrate is discussed above.

The onus is on an applicant to provide primary evidence to demonstrate this standard. For help, an applicant should refer to the curriculum current at the time of application and the Specialty Specific Guidance available on PMETB's website. It is worth stressing that structured reports and testimonials do not count as primary evidence, but can be used to triangulate other evidence.

An applicant should consider how to best demonstrate what they have done and at what level, so evidence of logbooks and any assessment and appraisal which comments directly on clinical skills is very helpful.

As PMETB are responsible for the process you should contact them for guidance and application forms. If you want to discuss your application you may contact Megan Wilson from the JCST on 020 7869 6256 or mawilson@jcst.org.



GRANTS PROGRAMME ANNOUNCEMENT

From 2009 HRUK will be offering the following awards:

Clinical Research Training Fellowships, up to £150,000 each
Deadline 12 noon, 2 March 2009

Translational Research Project Grants, up to £150,000 each
Deadline 12 noon, 1 July 2009

Novel and Emerging Technologies Grant, up to £200,000
Deadline 12 noon, 3 August 2009

Clinical Travel Scholarship, up to £50,000
Deadline 12 noon, 16 March 2009

Young Researchers Travel Scholarships, up to £7,000
Deadlines: March, June, September, December

See www.heartresearch.org.uk for full details
or call Helen Wilson on 0113 234 7474