

Guidance for North West School of Surgery trainees on run-through training programmes

A run-through training programme is a programme that runs straight from ST1 to ST7/8 without the need to apply to enter a later stage of training.

If a training programme is not run-through, the programme is “uncoupled”. This means after completing core surgical training, trainees must apply and be appointed through National Selection for their higher specialty at ST3.

Most specialties offer both run-through and uncoupled options, some only run-through and some only uncoupled.

| Specialty | Uncoupled training available | Run-through training available |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Cardio-thoracic Surgery | Yes [†] | Yes* |
| General Surgery | Yes | Yes*** |
| Neurosurgery | No | Yes* |
| Oral and Maxillo-facial Surgery | Yes | Yes* |
| Otolaryngology (ENT) | Yes | Yes** |
| Paediatric Surgery | Yes | Yes** |
| Plastic Surgery | Yes | No |
| Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery | Yes | Yes*** |
| Urology | Yes | Yes*** |
| Vascular Surgery | Yes | Yes*** |

* GMC (General Medical Council) approved run-through training programme

** Run-through training pilot

*** Run-through training pilot (through Improving Surgical Training (IST))

† last recruitment at ST3 in 2022

Trainees on Run-through training programmes (except Neurosurgery)

- ST1 and ST2 trainees are managed by the Core Surgery Training Programme Director (TPD) with input from the run-through specialty TPD.
- The Core Surgery ARCP panel assesses ST1 and ST2 trainees with input from the run-through specialty TPD. The run-through specialty TPD must be invited to advise and contribute to the ST2 ARCP.

Run-through Neurosurgery trainees

- All grades of trainee (ST1-8) are managed by the Neurosurgery TPD.
- The Neurosurgery Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) panel assesses all trainees.

How to complete ST1 & ST2 placements on ISCP for trainees on run-through training programmes (except Neurosurgery)

As with other established run-through specialties, trainees will be allocated a National Training Number (NTN) which will be linked to the parent specialty. For that reason, trainees should record the following information when creating a new placement:

| Your key training details | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Appointment type | Surgical StR |
| Parent specialty | select the relevant run-through higher specialty |
| Academic trainee | No / ACL / ACF / CL (select as appropriate) |
| Military Trainee | No / Yes (select as appropriate) |
| Deanery/LETB | Select either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Education North West (Mersey) for Cheshire & Merseyside sector • Health Education North West (North West) for Greater Manchester, Lancashire & South Cumbria Sector |
| TPD | this should be your allocated core TPD (not your run-through specialty TPD, although both should appear in the user picker) |

| Placement details | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Hospital | type hospital name and it should appear in the user picker |
| Start Date | start date of placement |
| End Date | end date of placement |
| Full Time Trainee | Yes / No (select as appropriate) |
| Specialty of placement | select the specialty of your current placement (This could be different from the specialty of your NTN as selected in the section above) |
| Level | ST1 or ST2 (not CT1 / CT2) |

| Supervisors for this placement | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| AES | Type your Assigned Educational Supervisors' GMC number or name and it should appear in the user picker |
| CS | Your Clinical Supervisor should be someone different from your AES. Type you Clinical Supervisors' GMC number or name and it should appear in the user picker (you can have more than one CS). |

Add the run-through specialty TPD as one of your CSs – this is to allow the specialty TPD access to your portfolio (especially important for the Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP)). To see who the specialty TPD is for your run-through specialty, see https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/Specialty_Schools/Surgery/TPDs

If you have any problems with completing your placement on ISCP, please contact the ISCP helpdesk:

Email: helpdesk@iscp.ac.uk

Tel: 020 7869 6299

Progression to ST3 (except Neurosurgery)

All run-through trainees will be assessed at an ARCP at the end of their ST2 year to confirm their readiness to progress to ST3. All the standard core surgical competencies from the Core Surgical Curriculum will be required to be completed by the end of ST2 to allow progression to ST3. Trainees who have not achieved the minimum requirement may require extra time in the core element of the training programme.