Academic Foundation Programme Application Evening

7th October 2015

KCL
## Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.00 – 6.45</td>
<td>Introductory Lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.45 – 7.00</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.00 – 7.45</td>
<td>Workshop A (or B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.45 – 8.00</td>
<td>Rotate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.00 – 8.45</td>
<td>Workshop B (or A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.45 – 9.00</td>
<td>Questions and close</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Workshop A: Academic
- Common questions
- Answering academic questions
- Critical appraisal

### Workshop B: Clinical
- Common questions
- Sample scenarios
- Structuring your answers
Applying to the Academic Foundation Programme

Dr Ali Hosin
Dr Sotiria Manou-Stathopoulou
Dr Anthony Dorr
DISCLAIMER

• The advice contained herein has been compiled by current AFP trainees based on their subjective experiences of the AFP application process. It is not designed to substitute other guidance provided via other official channels.

• The information is, to the best of our knowledge, current and accurate as of 7th October 2015

• If there is any discrepancy between the advice provided here and other official guidance, you are advised to follow the official guidance (e.g. UKFPO website, AUoA website, UKFPO applicants’ handbook)
Overview

• The clinical academic career pathway
• Why apply for the AFP
• Current trainees’ perspectives
• The application process
  • Key Dates
  • FPAS – achievements, whitespace questions
  • The interview
• Questions
• **Walport report (2005)**
  - Shortage of clinical academics
  - Many deterrents to a clinical academic career
  - No clear route of entry
  - Proposed combined clinical academic training

---

**WALPORT INTEGRATED ACADEMIC TRAINING PATHWAY FOR RESEARCHERS**

- **Integrated academic training path**
- **Certificate of completion of training**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical School</th>
<th>Foundation programme</th>
<th>Specialist training</th>
<th>Academic position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MB</td>
<td>Academic foundation year</td>
<td>Academic clinical fellowship</td>
<td>Senior lecturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercalated BSc</td>
<td>F1</td>
<td>Clinical training 1</td>
<td>Further speciality/sub speciality training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MB/PhD</td>
<td>F2</td>
<td>Clinical training 2</td>
<td>Senor clinical lectureship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate entry training</td>
<td></td>
<td>Clinical training 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Training fellowship 3 years</td>
<td>Clinical Lectureship 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clinician scientist fellowship up to 4 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: the timings of personal fellowships are indicative. There should be flexibility according to individual career progression.*
Why apply?

**Academic**
- Considering academic medical career
- Protected research time – academic skills, develop research interests
- Stepping stone to ACF, MD/PhD

**Clinical**
- Security of jobs

**Personal**
- Location
- AFP outcome earlier than standard FP

And many more...
The application process - FPAS

www.foundationprogramme.nhs.uk
FPAS

• Applicant’s handbook

• Application period: 5-16 October
  • AUoAs: Academic Units of Application (max 2)
  • Look at programmes available

• Separate application form to standard FP

• Additional Achievements

• Whitespace questions
AFP application on FPAS

Additional achievements
• Degree(s)
• Publications, presentations
• Prizes

Whitespace questions
• Up to 6 whitespace questions (200 words) +/- CV
  • Academic clinical experience to date
  • Why you wish to apply for an AFP
Additional achievements

• **Does not follow** national FP mark scheme for AAs
• Each AUoA will have its own scoring criteria
• Include
  • Presentations
  • Publications (does not need PMID)
  • Prizes
  • Anything you think might count
• If unsure
  • Check AUoA website or ask them
  • Enter it anyway
Whitespace questions

1. Give an example of a research/teaching/management experience and its significance to your application for an AFP

2. Give a second example of a research/teaching/management experience and its significance to your application for an AFP

3. Describe a time that will be relevant to your foundation training when you have worked as a successful member of a team

4. Describe your contribution to academic life during your medical school career and how it will be relevant to an academic medical career
Advice for whitespace questions

• Answer the question!
• Include in answers what you learnt, and how experiences will help you during AFP
• Relate answers to **AFP person specification**

• Draft, re-draft, re-re-draft, re-re-re-draft...
• Ask people to look at your answers (consultant, personal tutor, project supervisor)
• Backup your answers
The interview

• From 19 October: shortlisting and interviews
• From 20 Jan: AFP offers

• Vary according to AUoA
• Thames
  • 30 minutes to review clinical scenario and abstract
  • Clinical interview: 10 minutes
  • Academic interview: 10 minutes

• We will be running mock interviews
Clinical interview

• AFP doctors have less time to complete FP competencies
• Excellent clinical skills and knowledge is vital
• The clinical interview tests this

• Clinical scenario might include themes of
  • Assessing sick patient: ABCDE
  • Escalation *e.g.* asked to do something outwith FY1 competence
  • Prioritisation *e.g.* unwell patient, disgruntled relative, med students
  • Ethics

• More in clinical workshop
Academic interview

• Motivations for AFP
• Previous research experience
• Abstract-focused discussion: critical appraisal
  • Strengths
  • Weaknesses
  • Implications for clinical practice
  • Basic statistics

• More in academic workshop
Summary

• AFP is a great opportunity
• More to AFP application than standard FP
• Applying does not disadvantage standard FP

• Questions?
Next

• Short break – read clinical scenario & abstract

• Clinical skills and academic skills workshops
• 45 minutes each
• Swap
Useful reading

• Medical Interviews (Picard et al)
  • http://amzn.to/1LDnA03

• How to Read a Paper (Greenhalgh)
  • http://amzn.to/1Qdj46s