

Welcome to the February 2019 edition of the RGUC Newsletter

This newsletter updates members of the Dudley Group Undergraduate Teaching Academy about projects and resources being developed for medical students to supplement their learning and medical education. We aim to publish an edition every quarter.

WHAT'S NEW

Topics covered in this edition:

- Key diary dates
- Quality Assurance Monitoring Visit
- Third Year OSCE Digital Mark Sheet Training
- Consultant Corner - Dr Nicola Calthorpe
- Student Focus
- Latest Projects; RGUC Connect
- Medical Work Experience

Quality Monitoring Visit 2019

The University of Birmingham medical school runs a programme that monitors each teaching Trust's education and training provision for medical students. Our next monitoring visit is on Tuesday 19th March 2019 in the Undergraduate Centre.

Please can we count on as many academy tutors, teachers and support staff to provide a good turnout, and show support for and commitment to the teaching academy.

The programme for the visit is detailed below:

Time	Session
09:00am - 10:00am	Meet and discussions with head of academy, deputies, undergraduate coordinators and key administrative staff
10:00am - 10:45am	Discussion with students
11:00am - 11:30am	Discussions with chief executive, finance, education director and medical director
11:30am - 12 noon	Discussions with senior academic tutors and teachers
12 noon - 12:45pm	Discussions with other teaching staff involved in undergraduate education (teaching fellows, clinical skills lead, simulation lead, media team)
2:00pm - 2:30pm	Feedback to head of academy and undergraduate coordinators (and any other staff - all welcome)

KEY DIARY DATES

- Fourth year SPC students' start date - Monday 11th February
- Quality Assurance Visit - Tuesday 19th March
- Third year exams - Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th April
- Fourth year exams - Tuesday 30th April & Wednesday 1st May
- Fifth year exams - Tuesday 7th, Wednesday 8th, Thursday 9th & Friday 10th May
- Fifth year re-sit exams - Monday 10th June

UPCOMING ACADEMY MEETINGS

- Tuesday 5th March
 - Tuesday 2nd April
 - Tuesday 4th June
- All academy meetings take place in the Undergraduate Centre at 1pm on the dates above.

RGUC CONNECT GOES LIVE

RGUC Connect is now fully functioning and in use by all students on placement. The latest version became available to download from January 2019 for both Apple and Android devices, allowing third, fourth and fifth year students easy access to daily timetable activities from their mobile devices.

A web-based version of the calendar is available to those without a smartphone or tablet. Although the app is primarily based at students, we invite members of staff to download it so they can access the students' timetables when required. Future developments to the app will include push notifications, access to the digital feedback forms and student resources.

More information about the app is detailed in our [YouTube](#) promotional video.



Third year OSCE Digital Mark Sheet Training

We have been invited to pilot a new *digital mark sheet system* being developed by the University of Birmingham medical school for future OSCE exams. For the third year OSCEs running on Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th April 2019, examiners will be required to complete mark sheets using an iPad supplied by the medical school. The iPads feature pre-loaded software, which will allow examiners to select boxes to mark the students' competency, and then fill in text boxes to offer constructive feedback. The undergraduate coordinators are offering additional training for examiners. Drop in sessions will be available on the following dates in the undergraduate centre;

- Wednesday 27th March - 09:00am till 2:00pm
- Friday 29th March - 09:00am till 4:00pm
- Tuesday 2nd April - 09:00am till 4:00pm
- Thursday 4th April - 09:00am till 4:00pm

Should you wish to attend a training session, email Laura James (laura.james13@nhs.net) indicating which date and a rough time you will be attending.



Consultant Column

Dr Nicky Calthorpe is a consultant anaesthetist, patient safety lead, fifth year medical student lead, Simulation Centre lead and MBChB simulation lead. Here, Nicky gives us an insight into simulation and Human Factors training.



My personally preferred method of teaching is using simulation. Simulation has many facets to its learning opportunities.

It allows you to...

- Implement your knowledge to manage clinical situations.
- Improve your non-technical skills and understanding of human factors and how they impact on your behaviour when treating patients.
- Develop your leadership and team working skills with your fellow students.



Simulation teaching may be delivered in bespoke, high tech simulation suites or at the bedside as in-situ training. It can involve the use of manikins, role-playing faculty, or part task trainers. Simulation is a very expensive classroom environment in terms of resources, so rather than teaching you knowledge and facts, it's much better utilised as an opportunity for you to put your knowledge into practice. What aspects of caring for patients are easy and work well? What might be the challenges you would face?

There needs to be a level of pre-existing knowledge to get the most from a simulation teaching session. To help with this, within the fifth year AIP programme, we have produced a blended learning package with pre-simulation

study guides and face-to-face teaching, which can be undertaken prior to timetabled simulation teaching.

The majority of learning in a simulation session is from the debriefing discussion after the scenario has finished. This allows you to make sense of what happened during the simulation scenario and adapt your knowledge based on that reflection. We use a debriefing technique called 'The Diamond'. This is a debriefing model consisting of a descriptive phase, an analysis phase and an application phase. The majority of discussion is led by the students and is facilitated by the simulation faculty members.

Simulation and Human Factors training is part of all undergraduate curricula, from medical students to nurses to physiotherapists. There are now mandated simulation scenarios in the third, fourth and fifth year MBChB programme at Birmingham Medical School. There's one scenario in the third year, two in the fourth year, and multiple scenarios in the fifth year, depending on your placement. At Russells Hall we deliver 17 scenarios in the fifth year. We also deliver additional sessions throughout all clinical years. These include opportunities to undertake multidisciplinary training with other allied health professionals, such as midwives and nurses, to increase your understanding of the roles of team members you will be working with in the future.

A top tip from me for your time on clinical placements is that you will get the best teaching from your patients, not in the library. The clinical presentations will stay in your memory much better if there's a face behind the story rather than a page in textbook. Don't be tempted to go home early or go to the library. Spend your time in the clinics and on the wards and get to know your patients' history and presentations. Make sense of the treatment they have been given and ask questions as to why those decisions were made.



And most of all, enjoy your time learning to be a doctor. It takes a lifetime!

Medical Work Experience

We run an annual medical work experience programme, which takes place during two consecutive weeks in June and July. The programme allows those aspiring to be doctors the opportunity to gain an awareness of the role that they might be interested in, whilst fully immersing themselves in daily clinical life and obtaining a better understanding of the work involved. There is a chance to spend time in theatres, outpatients, wards, simulation and clinical skills amongst other areas.



Further information can be found on the RGUC website. Applications must be submitted electronically. Instructions on how to apply can be found on the [work experience](#) page.



Applicants must be a student in school year 12 or above, and at least 17 years of age at the time the work experience takes place. They should either be attending school, college or higher education establishments within the Dudley area or reside in the Dudley borough.



Student Focus

Catherine always wanted to be a doctor from a very young age, but she didn't quite make the grades at first. Now in her third year of medicine at the University of Birmingham, Futurum Careers asked her how she did it.



Catherine's article features on the Futurum Careers website. You can read it at <https://futurumcareers.com/will-this-be-the-doctor-that-saves-your-life>.



Would you like to contribute to this newsletter?

If you would like to guest edit an edition of the RGUC Newsletter, you can email info@rguc.co.uk

