

EARLY CERTIFICATION PRINCIPLES

This paper provides simple guidance to aid Specialty Advisory Committees (SACs), and others involved in training, with specific queries relating to *early certification*. We expect that the new outcome-based curricula will increase flexibility within training and remove the “need” for these requests.

GENERIC ADVICE

Trainees need to be ahead of the curve throughout training and the evidence, including ARCPs, needs to support that.

SPECIFIC CASES

Individual requests will be more structured, should come from the Training Programme Director (TPD) and will be reviewed on a case by case basis:

Requests to change a certification date will require the SAC Liaison Member (LM) – with full SAC support, if necessary – to review the trainee’s portfolio at that point to advise on whether or not the trainee is likely to meet the requirements of the curriculum ahead of the existing provisional certification date:

- if at that point the LM / SAC is not prepared to support a revised certification date and raises concerns in relation to the trainee’s ability to meet the relevant competencies within a shorter timeframe, then that opinion will be given to the TPD
 - the final decision to change the provisional certification date rests with the local TPD / deanery / HEE office but they would not be expected to ignore SAC advice
- if the LM / SAC, upon reviewing the portfolio, agrees that the trainee is on track to meet the required competencies ahead of original certification date, then that opinion will be given to the TPD
 - the final decision to change the provisional certification date rests with the local TPD / deanery / HEE office and they should inform JCST of the change