

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. Some specialties may require trainees to attend National Selection for the higher specialty to be bench-marked before progressing to ST3.

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.

The following surgical specialties operate run-through training programmes

Specialty	Uncoupled training available	Run-through training available	Benchmarked at ST3 (if run-through)
Cardio-thoracic Surgery	Yes	Yes*	No
General Surgery	Yes	Yes***	Yes
Neurosurgery	No	Yes*	No
Oral and Maxillo-facial Surgery	Yes	Yes*	No
Otolaryngology (ENT)	Yes	Yes**	No
Paediatric Surgery	Yes	No	N/A
Plastic Surgery	Yes	No	N/A
Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery	Yes	Yes***	Yes
Urology	Yes	Yes***	Yes
Vascular Surgery	Yes	Yes***	No

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

** Run-through training pilot

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

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 specialty (this must be the same as the specialty of your NTN)
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 (<u>not</u> 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 (for the specialty of your NTN) 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

Parts of this document is based on the JCST document: [Run-Through Training \(RTT\) in Surgical Specialties: Principles and Guidance for TPD, ARCP and Specialty Advisory Committees \(SAC\) – July 2018](#)

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.

Trainees on IST run-through programmes only:

As part of the IST run-through pilot, trainees in General Surgery, Trauma & Orthopaedic Surgery and Urology are expected to attend ST3 National Selection for their chosen specialty prior to starting ST3. **This does not apply to IST Vascular Surgery run-through trainees or trainees in any other non-IST run-through programme.**

The national recruitment score for each trainee will only be used as part of the developmental assessment of the IST pilot and will not be used to assess the trainee as part of the ARCP process.

IST ST2 trainees should ensure that they complete an application form for the appropriate ST3 vacancy on Oriel (<https://www.oriel.nhs.uk/Web/>) in the January before their expected progression to ST3 (for 2020, the application window for General Surgery will be open from **Wednesday 29 January to Wednesday 19 February 2020**). There will be an appropriate section in the application form for the IST trainee to state they are in a pilot programme.

Any queries relating to the national selection process should be directed to:
<https://lasepgmdesupport.hee.nhs.uk/support/home>