

NEW CURRICULA

Learning, teaching and assessment programs

Advanced Training in Clinical Pharmacology



RACP
Specialists. Together

About this document

The new Advanced Training in Clinical Pharmacology curriculum consists of curriculum standards and learning, teaching and assessment (LTA) programs.

This document outlines the Advanced Training in Clinical Pharmacology LTA programs for trainees and supervisors. It should be used in conjunction with the Advanced Training in Clinical Pharmacology [curriculum standards](#).

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Program overview

CURRICULUM STANDARDS

The [curriculum standards](#) are summarised as **14** learning goals. The learning goals articulate what trainees need to be, do, and know, and are assessed throughout training.

BE	1. Professional behaviours
DO	2. Team leadership 3. Supervision and teaching 4. Quality improvement 5. Clinical assessment and management 6. Management of transitions in care 7. Longitudinal care 8. Communication with patients 9. Prescribing 10. Investigations 11. Clinic management
KNOW	12. Foundations of clinical pharmacology 13. Clinical pharmacology by system 14. Prescribing

LTA STRUCTURE

The learning, teaching and assessment (LTA) structure defines the framework for delivery and trainee achievement of the curriculum standards in the program. The program is structured in three phases. These phases establish clear checkpoints for trainee progression and completion.



Entry criteria

Prospective trainees must have:

- completed RACP Basic Training, including the Written and Clinical Examinations
- general medical registration with the Medical Board of Australia if applying in Australia, or a medical registration with a general scope of practice with the Medical Council of New Zealand and a practising certificate if applying in Aotearoa New Zealand.
- an Advanced Training position in an RACP-accredited training setting or network or an approved non-core training position.

LTA PROGRAMS

The LTA programs outline the strategies and methods to learn, teach, and assess the [curriculum standards](#).

Entry

- 1 [training application](#)

Learning

Minimum 36 months full-time equivalent (FTE)

[professional experience](#)

[Developmental and psychosocial training](#) (Paediatrics and child health only)

- 1 [rotation plan](#) per rotation

- 1 [case report](#) per phase

- 1 [meeting attendance at ASCEPT clinical weekend](#)

[RACP Advanced Training Orientation resource](#)

[RACP Supervisor Professional Development Program](#)

[RACP Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource](#)

[Recommended resources](#)

Teaching

- 2 [supervisors](#) per rotation

- 1 [research project supervisor](#)

Assessment

- 12 [learning captures](#) per phase

- 12 [observation captures](#) per phase

- 4 [progress reports](#) per phase

- 1 [research project](#)

About the program

Purpose of Advanced Training

The RACP offers Advanced Training in 33 diverse medical specialties as part of Division, Chapter, or Faculty training programs.

The purpose of Advanced Training is to develop a workforce of physicians who:

- have received breadth and depth of focused specialist training, and experience with a wide variety of health problems and contexts
- are prepared for and committed to independent expert practice, lifelong learning, and continuous improvement
- provide safe, quality health care that meets the needs of the communities of Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Overview of specialty

Clinical pharmacology is a diverse and exciting field at the cutting edge of prescribing, research, drug development, and therapeutic advancement. A career in clinical pharmacology presents a range of non-clinical and clinical opportunities, including dual specialisation.

Clinical pharmacologists play a leading role in improving patient outcomes by optimising medicine use. Clinical pharmacologists have extensive skills in:

- **managing patients with complex prescribing needs**, including polypharmacy, adherence, and multimorbidity. They prevent and manage adverse drug reactions, and identify and reduce medication errors.
- **advancing and refining the use of medicines and other therapeutics**, including designing and leading safe and effective clinical trials. They work to discover new medicines, choose the best dosing regime, and explore new uses for existing medicines.
- **medicines policy and management**, playing a leading role in drug regulation and the development and implementation of prescribing guidelines and medicines optimisation policy. They provide leadership on the safe and optimal use of medicines within the health service at local, regional, and national levels, while also addressing issues related to drug safety and clinical toxicology.
- **clinical expertise relevant to all specialties**, aiming to improve prescribing practices and ensure prescribing decisions are evidence-based. They practice in a wide range of settings, including clinical practice, academia, research, industry, and drug regulation, considering factors like drug safety and toxicology.
- **education and training** across the whole workforce in relation to all aspects of the safe, effective, and economic use of medicines. They provide academic leadership in teaching and research in universities, hospitals, government departments, and industry. Clinical pharmacologists promote the undertaking of drug utilisation evaluations in hospitals and community practice and provide important input into therapeutic drug monitoring use and interpretation.

- **application of a scholarly approach**, conducting and applying research and evidence in their daily practice to advance medicines and therapeutics and contribute to a growing global knowledge base. There are often opportunities within non-clinical practice to travel and collaborate with colleagues internationally.
- **working as an integral part of multidisciplinary teams**. Clinical pharmacologists have a collaborative approach that is focused on building relationships and improving quality control around the use of medicines.

Supervising committee

The program is supervised by the Advanced Training Committee in Clinical Pharmacology.

Qualification

Trainees who successfully meet the completion standards and criteria of this program will be awarded Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (FRACP).

Learning goals and progression criteria

Learning, teaching and assessment structure

The learning, teaching and assessment structure defines the framework for delivery and trainee achievement of the curriculum standards in the Advanced Training program.

Advanced Training is structured in three phases. These phases will establish clear checkpoints for trainee progression and completion.

- 1 Specialty foundation**
 - Orient trainees and confirm their readiness to progress in the Advanced Training program.
- 2 Specialty consolidation**
 - Continue trainees' professional development in the specialty and support progress towards the learning goals.
- 3 Transition to Fellowship**
 - Confirm trainees' achievement of the curriculum standards, completion of Advanced Training, and admission to Fellowship.
 - Support trainees' transition to unsupervised practice.



Figure: Advanced Training learning, teaching and assessment structure

- An **entry decision** is made before entry into the program.
- **Progress decisions**, based on competence, are made at the end of the specialty foundation and specialty consolidation phases of training.
- A **completion decision**, based on competence, is made at the end of the training program, resulting in eligibility for admission to Fellowship.



Advanced Training is a **hybrid time- and competency-based training program**. There is a minimum time requirement of full-time equivalent (FTE) experience, and progression and completion decisions are based on evidence of trainees' competence.

Entry criteria

Entry attributes	<p>Prospective trainees can demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a commitment and capability to pursue a career as a clinical pharmacologist• the ability and willingness to achieve the common learning goals for Advanced Training:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ team leadership○ supervision and teaching○ the professional behaviours, as outlined in the Competencies.
Entry criteria	<p>Prospective trainees must have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• completed RACP Basic Training, including the Written and Clinical Examinations• general medical registration with the Medical Board of Australia if applying in Australia, or a medical registration with a general scope of practice with the Medical Council of New Zealand and a practising certificate if applying in Aotearoa New Zealand• an Advanced Training position in an RACP-accredited training setting or network or an approved non-core training position.

Progression criteria

To progress to the next phase or to complete the program, trainees must demonstrate:

- the ability to plan and manage their learning and to complete their learning and assessment requirements in a timely manner
- achievement of the learning goals to the levels outlined in the [learning goal progression criteria](#).

Training committees or delegated progress review panels will consider evidence supporting trainees' achievement of the progression criteria and make progress decisions.

If criteria have not been met, committees or panels may decide to place conditions on trainees' progression to the next phase of training or not to progress trainees until all criteria have been achieved.

Learning goals

The [curriculum standards](#) are summarised as **14** learning goals.

The learning goals articulate what trainees need to be, do, and know, and are assessed throughout training on a five-point scale. This scale determines the expected standard for each learning goal at the end of each training phase. Trainees must meet these standards to progress to the next phase or complete the program.

Learning and assessment tools are linked to the learning goals that allow trainees to demonstrate competence across each learning goal.

Levels	1	2	3	4	5
Be: Competencies (professional behaviours)	Needs to work on behaviour in more than five domains of professional practice	Needs to work on behaviour in four or five domains of professional practice	Needs to work on behaviour in two or three domains of professional practice	Needs to work on behaviour in one domain of professional practice	Consistently behaves in line with all 10 domains of professional practice
Do: Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs)	Is able to be present and observe	Is able to act with direct supervision	Is able to act with indirect supervision (i.e., ready access to a supervisor)	Is able to act with supervision at a distance (i.e., limited access to a supervisor)	Is able to supervise others
Know: Knowledge guides	Has heard of some of the topics in this knowledge guide	Knows the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Knows how to apply this knowledge to practice	Frequently shows they apply this knowledge to practice	Consistently demonstrates application of this knowledge to practice

		Entry criteria	Progression criteria		Completion criteria
	Learning goals	Entry into training <i>At entry into training, trainees will:</i>	Specialty foundation <i>By the end of this phase, trainees will:</i>	Specialty consolidation <i>By the end of this phase, trainees will:</i>	Transition to Fellowship <i>By the end of training, trainees will:</i>
Be	1. Professional behaviours	Level 5 consistently behaves in line with all 10 domains of professional practice	Level 5 consistently behaves in line with all 10 domains of professional practice	Level 5 consistently behaves in line with all 10 domains of professional practice	Level 5 consistently behaves in line with all 10 domains of professional practice
	2. Team leadership: Lead a team of health professionals	Level 2 is able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 is able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 is able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
Do	3. Supervision and teaching: Supervise and teach professional colleagues	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 4 is able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	4. Quality improvement: Identify and address failures in health care delivery	Level 3 is able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 4 is able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	5. Clinical assessment and management: Clinically assess and manage the ongoing care of patients	Level 3 is able to act with indirect supervision	Level 3 is able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 is able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	6. Management of transitions in care: Manage the transition of patient care between health care professionals, providers, and contexts	Level 3 is able to act with indirect supervision	Level 3 is able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 is able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	7. Longitudinal care: Manage and coordinate the longitudinal care of patients with chronic illness, disability, and/or long-term health issues	Level 2 is able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 is able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 is able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	8. Communication with patients: Discuss diagnoses and management plans with patients	Level 3 is able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 is able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 4 is able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	9. Prescribing: Prescribe therapies tailored to patients' needs and conditions	Level 4 be able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 4 is able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 is able to supervise others	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	10. Investigations: Select, organise, and interpret investigations	Level 2 is able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 is able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 is able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others
	11. Clinic management: Manage an outpatient clinic	Level 2 is able to act with direct supervision	Level 3 is able to act with indirect supervision	Level 4 is able to act with supervision at a distance	Level 5 be able to supervise others

		Entry criteria	Progression criteria		Completion criteria
	Learning goals	Entry into training <i>At entry into training, trainees will:</i>	Specialty foundation <i>By the end of this phase, trainees will:</i>	Specialty consolidation <i>By the end of this phase, trainees will:</i>	Transition to Fellowship <i>By the end of training, trainees will:</i>
Know	12. Foundations of clinical pharmacology	Level 2 knows the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 3 knows how to apply this knowledge to practice	Level 4 frequently shows they apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrates application of this knowledge to practice
	13. Clinical pharmacology by system	Level 2 knows the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 3 knows how to apply this knowledge to practice	Level 4 frequently shows they apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrates application of this knowledge to practice
	14. Prescribing	Level 3 knows the topics and concepts in this knowledge guide	Level 4 frequently shows they apply this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrates application of this knowledge to practice	Level 5 consistently demonstrates application of this knowledge to practice

Developmental & psychosocial training (Paediatrics & Child Health Division)

Purpose

Developmental and Psychosocial (D&P) Training assists trainees to develop a sophisticated understanding of child development, encompassing physical, cognitive, emotional, behavioural and social areas, which should be gained from the perspective of the child within the family and in the context of the community.

A mandatory period of D&P Training for all paediatricians was introduced to ensure that the changing nature of paediatric practice is reflected in the training programs. A mandatory period of D&P Training for all paediatricians was introduced to ensure that the changing nature of paediatric practice is reflected in the training programs. D&P is a requirement for all paediatric trainees to receive FRACP and may be completed during either Basic or Advanced Training.

Review of D&P

The College is working to redefine how D&P training will be embedded in the new training programs. This will include defining learning goals, and new options for trainees to achieve these learning goals, which will be embedded into the Basic and Advanced Training programs.

Alternative options for completing D&P training and a timeline for implementation will be communicated when available. New D&P requirements will be developed, and any updates will be included in the relevant curricula standards and learning, teaching and assessment programs. Trainees and supervisors will be informed of updates with sufficient notice of any changes to ensure no disadvantage.

Until alternatives are available, **it is important that trainees plan to complete the requirement for D&P training through one of the time-based options currently available, to ensure eligibility for admission to Fellowship on completion of the requirements of Advanced Training.** Trainees must satisfactorily complete this requirement to be eligible for admission to Fellowship under the Paediatrics & Child Health Division.

Aotearoa New Zealand

Requirement

The Developmental and Psychosocial (D&P) requirement can be met by completing a 3 month full-time equivalent rotation in relevant specialties or by documenting the management of suitable cases in a logbook.

Options available

Option A: 3 month FTE rotation

The specialties listed below outline the suitable rotations to meet this requirement.

- Adolescent medicine
- Child protection and adolescent psychiatry
- Community paediatrics
- Developmental/behavioural paediatrics
- Disability/rehabilitation paediatrics

Rotations not suitable for D&P Training:

- Paediatric gastroenterology*
- Paediatric neurology**

* Exceptions may be possible if rotation is specifically designed to have a D&P Training focus. However, this would be unlikely in Basic Training and would require specific prospective approval.

** Rotation usually not possible unless there is significant developmental focus. Not possible at SHO level.

These areas reflect a holistic approach to the health problems of children and young people. An understanding of the roles and inter-relationships of many allied health and community-based services, in a way that distinguishes them from experience in organ-based specialties, is required.

Option B: documentation of suitable cases in a logbook

Alternatively, trainees can gain the required training by managing suitable cases over a longer period with appropriate supervision. All training must be documented in a logbook.

Trainees must keep a record of at least 12 cases they have personally managed under supervision.

Logbook entries must cover a range of conditions:

- developmental problems, with a focus on the response of parents, families and caregivers to the diagnosis and ongoing care of the child with special needs.
- pervasive developmental disorders.
- general learning disability — the behaviour problems that arise secondary to this condition.
- chronic illness — behavioural and psychological problems resulting from chronic illness, and parent and family difficulties resulting from chronic conditions, such as diabetes, epilepsy, chronic arthritis, chronic respiratory disease, physical disability and childhood cancer.
- common behavioural paediatric problems such as enuresis, encopresis, sleep disturbance, eating difficulties, attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder, conduct disorder, anxiety, depression, and pre-school behavioural adjustment disorders.

Trainees are to provide a summary of the issues involved in each case and how they were managed. Copies of clinical letters are not appropriate.

Cases will generally accumulate over a 2-year period and each case record must be signed by the supervisor.

Resources

[Psychosocial Logbook example](#) (PDF)

[Psychosocial Logbook template](#) (DOC)

Australia

Requirement

Developmental & psychosocial (D&P) training is currently a time-based requirement consisting of a minimum of six months full-time equivalent (FTE) in one or more of the following areas:

- Developmental/behavioural paediatrics
- Community paediatrics
- Disability/rehabilitation paediatrics
- Child and adolescent psychiatry
- Child protection
- Palliative medicine

These areas reflect a holistic approach to the health problems of children and young people. An understanding of the roles and inter-relationships of many allied health and community-based services, in a way that distinguishes them from experience in organ-based specialties, is required.

Options available

Approved training options

- **Option A: A prospectively-approved psychosocial training position (6 months full-time equivalent).** This can be completed as:
 - 2 x 3-month terms, or
 - 1 x 6-month block, or
 - a continuous part-time position, such as 2.5 days a week for 12 months (A conglomerate of experience for shorter time periods adding up to 6 months will not be accepted.)
- **Option B: A prospectively approved rural position (6 months full-time equivalent).** Complete the 6 months of training comprised of a documented weekly program in the psychosocial training areas with an appropriate level of supervision.
- **Option C: Attendance at a prospectively-approved clinic AND completion of an approved learning module.** The D&P training requirement can be completed in one of these formats:
 - 2 x sessions a week for 18 months, or
 - 1 x session a week for 3 years

An approved clinic is determined to be a clinic where other health and/or educational professionals are involved, and supervision is directed by a paediatrician who is experienced in one or multiple areas of D&P Training, such as behaviour, development, rehabilitation and child protection.

- The approved learning module may be **one** of the following:
 - Evidence of attendance at a lecture series at a recognised institution, related to the D&P Training areas; or
 - 3 x referenced case reports/essays demonstrating comprehensive understanding of 3 different issues in the areas of psychosocial training – for example rehabilitation or community paediatrics (1500 to 2000 words each); or
 - Completion of the Griffith Mental Developmental Scales course.

Other prospectively approved modules may be considered.

Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia

How to complete it

Trainees must provide details of how they completed the Developmental & Psychosocial (D&P) training requirement by submitting information via [TMP](#) as a Learning theme.

To do this, trainees must:

1. Nominate the corresponding requirement option that was completed
2. Provide relevant supporting details. This may include:
 - referencing the rotation plan if the training was completed as part of an applicable subspecialty term.
 - describing the approved rural or clinic-based setting.
 - listing the approved learning module undertaken and associated evidence (e.g. attendance records, case reports).
 - upload completed documentation as required.

How to apply

Contact Nephrology@racp.edu.au or Nephrology@racp.org.nz to apply for approval of D&P Training.

Resources

[Developmental and Psychosocial Training Supervisor's Report form](#) (DOC)

Learning, teaching and assessment requirements

Overview

Requirements over the course of training

What do trainees need to do?	When do trainees need to do it?
Entry	
1 training application	At the start of the specialty foundation phase.
Learning	
Minimum 36 months FTE professional experience	Minimum 12 months FTE during each phase.
Developmental and psychosocial training (PCH only)	Before the end of Advanced Training, if not completed during Basic Training.
Meeting attendance to the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT) clinical weekend	Before the end of Advanced Training.
RACP Advanced Training Orientation resource	During the first 6 months of the specialty foundation phase.
RACP Supervisor Professional Development Program	Before the end of Advanced Training.
RACP Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource	Before the end of Advanced Training, if not completed during Basic Training. Recommended completion before the specialty consolidation phase.
RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource	Before the end of Advanced Training. Recommended completion before the transition to Fellowship phase.
Recommended resources	Recommended completion over the course of Advanced Training.
Teaching	
Nominate 1 research project supervisor	Recommended to be nominated before the specialty consolidation phase.
Assessment	
1 research project	Before the end of Advanced Training. Recommended submission before the transition to Fellowship phase.

Requirements per phase

What do trainees need to do?	When do trainees need to do it?
Learning	
1 rotation plan per rotation	At the start of (or prior to starting) the rotation.
1 case report per phase	Before the end of the phase
Teaching	
Nominate 2 supervisors per rotation	At the start of each accredited or approved training rotation.
Assessment	
12 learning captures	Minimum 1 per month.
12 observation captures	Minimum 1 per month.
4 progress reports	Minimum 1 every 3 months.

Entry

Training application

Requirement
1 training application, at the start of the specialty foundation phase.
Purpose
<p>The training application supports trainees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> confirm they meet the program entry criteria provide essential details for program enrolment, ensuring compliance with RACP standards establish a formal foundation for their training pathway, enabling access to program resources and support. <p>The application form will be reviewed by RACP staff. Trainees will be able to track the status of applications through the Training Management Platform (TMP).</p> <p>Trainees can submit rotation plans and complete assessments while waiting for their application to be approved.</p>
How to apply
<p>Trainees are to submit a training application for the program using TMP.</p> <p>Due dates</p> <p>28 February if starting at the beginning of the year.</p> <p>31 August if starting mid-year.</p>

Learning

Learning blueprints

This high-level learning program blueprint outlines which of the learning goals *could align* and *will align* with the learning requirements.

	Professional experience			Learning requirements
Learning goals	Core clinical pharmacology training positions	Research in training	Non-core training	Rotation plan
1. Professional behaviours	Will align	Could align	Could align	Will align
2. Team leadership	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
3. Supervision and teaching	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
4. Quality improvement	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
5. Clinical assessment and management	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
6. Management of transitions in care	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
7. Longitudinal care	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
8. Communication with patients	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
9. Prescribing	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
10. Investigations	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
11. Clinic management	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
12. Foundations of clinical pharmacology	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
13. Clinical pharmacology by system	Will align	Could align	Could align	x
14. Prescribing	Will align	Could align	Could align	x

	Learning requirements						
Learning goals	RACP Advanced Training Orientation resource	RACP Supervisor Professional Development Program	RACP Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource	RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource	ASCEPT clinical weekend	ASCEPT annual conference (recommended)	TAPNA annual scientific meeting (recommended)
1. Professional behaviours	Will align	Will align	Will align	Will align	Could align	Could align	Could align
2. Team leadership	x	x	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align
3. Supervision and teaching	x	Will align	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align
4. Quality improvement	x	x	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align
5. Clinical assessment and management	x	x	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align
6. Management of transitions in care	x	x	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align
7. Longitudinal care	x	x	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align
8. Communication with patients	x	x	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align
9. Prescribing	x	x	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align
10. Investigations	x	x	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align
11. Clinic management	x	x	x	Will align	Could align	Could align	Could align
12. Foundations of clinical pharmacology	x	x	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align
13. Clinical pharmacology by system	x	x	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align
14. Prescribing	x	x	x	x	Could align	Could align	Could align

Professional experience

These requirements can be completed in any sequence over the course of training.

Professional experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Complete at least 36 months of relevant professional experience in approved rotations.
Location of training
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recommended to complete training in at least 2 different training settings.Complete at least 24 months of training in accredited training settings in Australia and/or Aotearoa New Zealand.
Experiential training
<ul style="list-style-type: none">24 months minimum in accredited core clinical pharmacology training positions:<ul style="list-style-type: none">can include 12 months maximum in research (at the discretion of the Advanced Training Committee).12 months maximum in approved non-core training position. The following may be suitable non-core training for clinical pharmacology:<ul style="list-style-type: none">clinical training in all Advanced Training specialties, or additional time in clinical pharmacology trainingresearch as part of study towards a doctorate or master's degree relevant to clinical pharmacology.

Rotation plan

Requirement
1 rotation plan per rotation.
Description
The rotation plan is a work-based tool to document details of a training rotation and how a trainee intends to cover their program learning goals over the rotation period.
Purpose
The rotation plan helps trainees evaluate their learning gaps, curriculum needs, and local opportunities to meet expected standards. It is validated by College staff to ensure it aligns with the professional experience requirements for the program.
How to complete it
<p>Trainees can submit a rotation plan in TMP under the 'training plan' tab.</p> <p>Trainees undertaking their first rotation of their training program must select the checkbox labelled 'The rotation start date is also the start date of my Training Program' to record the start date for their training program.</p> <p>If a trainee is expecting a learning goal to be covered during a rotation, they must select 'yes' for 'coverage offered' and outline the learning opportunities available.</p>

This information will be used by supervisors and the overseeing RACP training committee to determine the relevance of the rotation to the program's professional experience requirements.

Trainees should upload a copy of the position description and any other supporting information that outlines the training position being undertaken. This should include regular / weekly activities that the trainee will be undertaking during the rotation (e.g. timetable).

Trainees can also set custom goals to define personal objectives they want to achieve during the rotation. These goals should be measurable and align with the trainee's professional objectives, skill gaps, or personal interests.

Trainees need to nominate their rotation supervisors in the plan. The supervisors will need to approve the plan in TMP via 'my assigned actions'.

For more information on how to complete a rotation plan review the [training resources](#).

Due dates

28 February for rotations in the first half or whole of the year.

31 August for rotations in the second half of the year.

Case report

Requirement

1 x case report per phase

Purpose

A case report is a learning activity that demonstrates the trainees' approach to a clinical or complex patient situation, including their clinical reasoning and evaluation skills, diagnostic process and management approach, including prescribing practices and the individualised use of medicine, while integrating relevant research on specific clinical pharmacology issues. Through the development of a case report, trainees gain experience in incorporating an evidence-based approach to medicine using scientific writing skills.

Description

In a case report, trainees will:

- formulate a treatment plan including the safe and effective use of medications
- develop a clinical question which requires an answer to inform the diagnosis and management of a patient
- research and critically appraise evidence related to the patient condition or situation
- apply relevant evidence to the patient case, diagnosis or situation which helps to validate their approach and decisions.

Case reports will be reviewed by a rotation supervisor using the review sheet.

How to complete it

Trainees are required to submit their case reports for review.

The case report coversheet should be completed and uploaded into [TMP](#) under the assessment tab.

For more information on how to complete a case report review the [training resources](#).

Resources

[Case report template](#)

[Case report coversheet](#)

[Case report review sheet](#) (for rotation supervisors)

Attendance at ASCEPT Clinical Weekend

Requirement

Attendance at the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT) clinical weekend once over the course of training.

Description

The clinical weekend is an event in the field of clinical pharmacology and toxicology. Held annually, the clinical weekend provides a platform for healthcare professionals, researchers, and educators to come together to discuss emerging issues, share research, and explore best practices in clinical pharmacology and toxicology.

Purpose

The presentations from clinical pharmacologists and other content specialists focus on recent advances in the field, as well as difficult concepts best covered by presentations and discussions.

These meetings provide an opportunity for learning and presenting trainee's project work.

How to complete it

Evidence of attendance at the [Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists \(ASCEPT\) clinical weekend](#) must be submitted to ClinicalPharmacology@racp.edu.au.

Courses

RACP Advanced Training Orientation resource

Requirement

1 RACP Advanced Training Orientation resource, completed during the first 6 months of the specialty foundation phase.

Description

This resource is designed to orient trainees to Advanced Training. It covers areas such as transition to Advanced Training, training and assessment, and trainee support. It is a 'one-stop shop' that trainees can return to if they ever want to find a useful resource, or need a refresher on the supporting resources, policies, and systems available to them.

Estimated completion time: 1–1.5 hours.

Purpose

The resource is intended to support trainees to successfully navigate their transition to Advanced Training and prepare for unsupervised practice as a specialist physician.

How to complete it

Trainees can complete the [Advanced Training Orientation resource](#) on RACP Online Learning.

Trainees will receive a certificate of completion on RACP Online Learning when they complete the resource. Completion of this requirement will automatically update in [TMP](#).

RACP Supervisor Professional Development Program

Requirement

1 RACP Supervisor Professional Development Program (SPDP), consisting of 3 workshops, completed by the end of Advanced Training.

Description

The SPDP consists of 3 workshops:

- Educational Leadership and Management
- Learning Environment and Culture
- Teaching and Facilitating Learning for Safe Practice.

See the [Supervisor Professional Development Program](#) for more information.

Purpose

This requirement aims to prepare trainees for a supervisory / educator role in the workplace and supports trainees' learning aligned with the 'team leadership' and 'supervision and teaching' learning goals.

How to complete it

[Register for a supervisor workshop.](#)

Trainees can complete the SPDP in three ways:

- Virtual workshops
- Face-to-face workshops
- Online courses.

Workshops are free and presented by volunteer Fellows trained in SPDP facilitation.

RACP Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource

Requirement
<p>1 Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource, if not completed during Basic Training.</p> <p>Trainees must complete the resource by the end of their Advanced Training. Completion is recommended before the specialty consolidation phase.</p>
Description
<p>The Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource teaches best practice medicine for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori patients through reflection on the trainee's own cultural values and recognition of their influence on professional practice.</p> <p>Estimated completion time: 2 hours.</p>
Purpose
<p>This resource supports trainees' learning aligned with the 'professional behaviours' learning goal. Specialist training requires trainees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• examine their own implicit biases• be mindful of power differentials• develop reflective practice• undertake transformative unlearning• contribute to a decolonisation of health services for Indigenous peoples.
How to complete it
<p>Trainees can complete the Australian Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety resource on RACP Online Learning.</p> <p>Trainees will receive a certificate of completion on RACP Online Learning when they complete the resource. Completion of this requirement will automatically update in TMP.</p>

RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource

Requirement
<p>1 RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource, completed by the end of Advanced Training.</p>
Description
<p>This resource has been designed for Advanced Trainees as an introduction to health policy, systems, and advocacy.</p> <p>Estimated completion time: 5 hours.</p>
Purpose
<p>The resource aims to support Advanced Trainees in meeting the health policy, systems, and advocacy professional standard and underpinning competencies outlined in their specialty</p>

curriculum, and to enable connections between Advanced Trainees' own practice and the nature and attributes of local, national, and global health systems.

How to complete it

Trainees can complete the [RACP Health Policy, Systems and Advocacy resource](#) on RACP Online Learning.

Trainees will receive a certificate of completion on RACP Online Learning when they complete the resource. Completion of this requirement will automatically update in [TMP](#).

Recommended resources

- [Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists \(ASCEPT\) annual conference](#)
- [Toxicology and Poisons Network Australasia \(TAPNA\) annual scientific meeting](#)
- [RACP Communication Skills resource](#)
- [RACP Ethics resource](#)
- [RACP Introduction to Leadership, Management and Teamwork resource](#)
- [RACP Research Projects resource](#)
- [RACP eLearning resources](#)
- [RACP curated collections](#)

Teaching

Supervision

Rotation supervisors

Trainees are to have 2 supervisors per rotation:

- **core training** – minimum of 1 supervisor per rotation who is a Fellow of the RACP in Clinical Pharmacology
- **non-core training** – minimum of 1 supervisor per rotation who is a Fellow of the RACP.

Nominating eligible supervisors

Trainees will be asked to nominate rotation supervisors as part of their rotation plan. Trainees are required to nominate [eligible supervisors](#) who meet the above requirements.

A list of eligible supervisors can be found on [MyRACP](#). The list is not available for post-Fellowship trainees. Post-Fellowship trainees can [contact the College](#) to confirm supervisor eligibility.

Research project supervisor

Trainees are to nominate 1 research project supervisor over the course of Advanced Training. Nominations are recommended before the specialty consolidation phase.

The research project supervisor guides trainees with their project choice, method, data analysis and interpretation, and quality of written and oral presentation.

More information about this role can be found in the [Advanced Training research project guidelines](#).

Assessment

Assessment blueprint

This high-level assessment program blueprint outlines which of the learning goals *could be* and *will be* assessed by the assessment tools.

Learning goals	Learning capture	Observation capture	Progress report	Research project
1. Professional behaviours	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Will assess
2. Team leadership	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
3. Supervision and teaching	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
4. Quality improvement	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
5. Clinical assessment and management	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
6. Management of transitions in care	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
7. Longitudinal care	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
8. Communication with patients	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
9. Prescribing	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
10. Investigations	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
11. Clinic management	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	x
12. Foundations of clinical pharmacology	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
13. Clinical pharmacology by system	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess
14. Prescribing	Could assess	Could assess	Will assess	Could assess

Learning capture

Requirement

12 learning captures per phase of training, minimum 1 per month.

Refer to [RACP Flexible Training Policy](#) for information on part-time training (item 4.2).

Description

The learning capture is a work-based assessment that involves a trainee capturing, and reflecting on, professional development activities, including evidence of work-based learning linked to specific learning goals.

Purpose

The learning capture assists trainees to reflect on experiences, promotes critical thinking, and connects these to a trainee's learning goals and professional development. It is also a valuable mechanism for trainees to enhance their understanding of complex topics and less common experiences that may be difficult to encounter in traditional training.

How to complete it

The learning capture is completed via [TMP](#) under the 'assessment requirements' tab.

For more information on how to complete a learning capture review the [training resources](#).

Observation capture

Requirement

12 observation captures per phase of training, minimum 1 per month.

Refer to [RACP Flexible Training Policy](#) for information on part-time training (item 4.2).

Description

An observation capture is a work-based assessment which provides a structured process for trainees to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in real-time workplace situations, while assessors observe and evaluate performance.

Purpose

The purpose of the observation capture is to assess skill development, track progress, and provide targeted feedback for improvement for trainees against specific learning goals.

How to complete it

Observation captures are completed via [TMP](#) under the 'assessment requirements' tab.

For more information on how to complete an observation capture review the [training resources](#).

Progress report

Requirement

4 progress reports per phase of training, minimum 1 every 3 months.

Refer to [RACP Flexible Training Policy](#) for information on part-time training (item 4.2).

Description

A progress report is an assessment that documents trainees' and supervisors' assessment of trainee progress against the training program learning goals over a period of training.

Purpose

Progress reports assess knowledge and skill development, track progress against the phase criteria, and provide targeted feedback for improvement.

How to complete it

Progress reports are completed via [TMP](#) under the assessment requirements tab.

Trainees must:

- self-assess against the program's learning goals
- record any leave taken during the covered training period
- provide summary comments about the rotation

For more information on how to complete a progress report review the [training resources](#).

Research project

Requirement

1 x research project over the course of Advanced Training.

Description

The research project should be one with which the trainee has had significant involvement in designing, conducting the research and analysing data. Trainees may work as part of a larger research project but must have significant input into a particular aspect of the study.

Research projects are not required to be specialty-specific but are required to be broadly relevant to trainees' area of specialty. Broadly relevant can be defined as topics that can enhance, complement and inform trainees' practice in the chosen specialty.

Three research project types are accepted:

- research in:
 - human subjects, populations and communities and laboratory research
 - epidemiology
 - education
 - leadership
 - medical humanities
 - areas of study which can be applied to care of patients or populations
- audit
- systematic review

The trainee must have a research project supervisor who may or may not be one of their rotation supervisors.

The research project is marked by the training committee as pass, fail or resubmit, and trainees receive qualitative feedback about their project. The research project should be submitted for marking by the end of the specialty consolidation phase to allow time for resubmission in the transition to Fellowship phase if the project is unsatisfactory.

Purpose

The research project enabled trainees to gain experience in research methods; in interpretation of research literature; in participation in research at some stage of their career; and to develop quality improvement skills. Submission of a research project provides evidence of the skills of considering and defining research problems; the systematic acquisition, analysis, synthesis and interpretation of data; and effective written communication.

How to complete it

Detailed information on how to complete the research project can be found in the [Advanced Training research project guidelines](#) and can be submitted via [TMP](#) under the assessment requirements tab.

For more information on how to submit an Advanced Training Research project, see the [training resources](#).

There are 3 deadlines that must be followed when submitting an Advanced Training Research Project. Trainees can choose to submit their Research Project on any of these 3 dates during the year.

Australia: 31 March, 15 June, or 15 September.

Aotearoa New Zealand: 31 March, 15 June, or 15 December.

Roles and responsibilities

Advanced Trainee

Role
A member who is registered with the RACP to undertake one or more Advanced Training programs.
Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain employment in accredited training settings.• Act as a self-directed learner:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ be aware of the educational requirements outlined in the relevant curricula and education policies○ actively seek and reflect on feedback from assessors, supervisors, and other colleagues○ plan, reflect on, and manage learning and progression against the curricula standards○ adhere to the deadlines for requirements of the training program.• Actively participate in training setting / network accreditation undertaken by the RACP.• Complete the annual Physician Training Survey to assist the RACP and training settings with ongoing quality improvement of the program.

Rotation supervisor

Role
A consultant who provides direct oversight of an Advanced Trainee during a training rotation.
Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be aware of the educational requirements outlined in the relevant curricula and education policies.• Oversee and support the progression of Advanced Trainees within the setting:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ assist trainees to plan their learning during the rotation○ support colleagues to complete observation captures with trainees○ provide feedback to trainees through progress reports.• Actively participate in rotation accreditation undertaken by the RACP.• Complete the annual Physician Training Survey to assist the RACP and training settings with ongoing quality improvement of the program.

Assessor

Role

A person who provides feedback to trainees via the observation capture or learning capture tool. This may include consultants and other medical professionals, allied health professionals, nursing staff, patients and their families, administrative staff, and consumer representatives.

Responsibilities

- Be aware of the learning goals of the training program.
- Provide feedback to support the progression of Advanced Trainees within the setting:
 - complete observation captures
 - provide feedback on learning captures as required.

Progress Review Panel

Role

A group convened to make evidence-based decisions on Advanced Trainees' progression through and certification of training.

More information on Progress Review Panels will be available in 2025.

Responsibilities

- Review and assess trainees' progress.
- Communicate and report on progression decisions.
- Monitor delivery of the Advanced Training program.
- Ensure compliance to regulatory, policy, and ethical matters.

RACP oversight committees

Role

RACP-administered committees with oversight of the Advanced Training Program in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. This includes the relevant training committee and/or Aotearoa New Zealand training subcommittee.

Responsibilities

- Oversee implementation of the Advanced Training program in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand:
 - manage and review program requirements, accreditation requirements, and supervision requirements
 - monitor implementation of training program requirements
 - implement RACP education policy
 - oversee trainees' progression through the training program

- monitor the accreditation of training settings
- case manage trainees on the training support pathway
- review progression and certification decisions on application in accordance with the RACP Reconsideration, Review, and Appeals By-Law.
- Work collaboratively with Progress Review Panels to ensure the delivery of quality training.
- Provide feedback, guidance, recommendations, and reasoning for decision making to trainees and supervisors.
- Declare conflicts of interest and excuse themselves from decision-making discussions when conflicts arise.
- Report to the overseeing RACP committee as required.

Resources

See [RACP Online Learning](#) for new curricula training and support resources.

For trainees

- [Education policies](#)
- [Trainee support](#)
- [Trainee responsibilities](#)
- [Accredited settings](#)
- [Training fees](#)

For supervisors

- [Supervisor Professional Development Program](#)
- [RACP Research Supervision resource](#)
- [RACP Training Support resource](#)
- [RACP Creating a Safe Workplace resource](#)