



TUESDAY 24 DECEMBER 2013

**Welcome to the FOM Training Newsletter.**

### **In this issue...**

## From the Director of Training: Dr Jayne Moore

Welcome to the fifth Training Newsletter from the Faculty of Occupational Medicine. The newsletter is aimed at trainees, who are working towards the award of MFOM, and trainers (Educational Supervisors and Clinical Supervisors).

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## Changes to external workplace-based assessments

External workplace-based assessments (WBAs) were introduced to enable the Faculty to quality assure the use of WBAs in practice. In 2011 the Faculty received only 23 external WBAs and in 2012, 17.

Following a review of the process and influence of these assessments it has been decided to discontinue them.

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## Trainee e-portfolio

The Faculty work continues on this. Unfortunately the progress on this has been

arrested as the portfolio was being developed by National Education Scotland (NES) and they have suspended all new development work effectively ending our partnership. The Faculty is now in discussion with alternative providers with a view to development of an e-portfolio for Occupational Medicine.

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## Clinical audit workshop

Would you like a workshop that will help you to design an audit in a day?

Clinical audit is a technique that can improve patient outcomes by measuring performance against pre-determined standards and acting on the findings. Completion of a full cycle (measurement, intervention, measurement) of clinical audit would meet the criterion of a quality improvement activity for revalidation. It also helps you to achieve curriculum competencies.

The workshop will teach participants how to prioritise audit topics and develop their chosen topic into an effective local clinical audit. By the end of the day participants will have a good understanding of the stages of clinical audit.

If there is sufficient demand the workshop will be run by Dr Siân Williams and Penny Peel from the Health and Work Development Unit (a FOM/RCP partnership) and will be held at the Faculty office.

If you feel that you would like to attend such a workshop please can you express interest to [Emma Cox-Smith](#). If there is sufficient interest then the HWDU will set up a date.

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## Medical leadership skills

If you are wondering where to find information on how to develop your leadership skills for the future then some useful information can be found through the Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management at <https://www.fmlm.ac.uk>.

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## Courses

### **Course A: Revision Course for Part 2 MFOM**

Following feedback from this year's examinations and the University of Birmingham Revision Course, a revision course is being offered in 2014.

Dates: **5-7 August 2014**. Please see booking information below.

### **Course B: How to assess and manage risks to health from chemical substances in the workplace – a practical course for OH practitioners.**

Programme lead – Dr Steven Sadhra, University of Birmingham.

The content of this course is specifically designed to help those who have difficulty accessing occupational hygiene experience. A different course (Noise and vibration, ergonomics, etc) will be run over a 4-year cycle to cover all major

aspects within occupational hygiene. The occupational hygiene / photographic sections of the OSCE within the experience of the new Part 2 MFOM examinations have highlighted deficiencies in candidate knowledge about workplace risk assessments and occupational hygiene.

This is a 2-day practical programme designed to improve knowledge of industrial processes, methods for assessing exposure to chemicals and the interpretation of typical exposure data presented in occupational hygiene reports. The programme will also cover methods used for selecting and evaluating control measures including personal protective equipment (PPE) and engineering ventilation systems. Sampling instrumentation used to collect exposure data will also be available for delegates to handle and become familiar with their use. The use of occupational hygiene data will be discussed in assessing and managing risks in the workplace including health surveillance.

Proposed dates: **21-22 May 2014**. Please see booking information below.

### **Course C: Two day course on epidemiology and statistics**

A two day course on epidemiology and statistics, to be delivered by Dr Hubert Lam, University of Birmingham. Dr Lam leads the teaching of epidemiology and research methods on the MSc in Occupational Health, University of Birmingham.

Dates: **May 2015** (TBC) Please see booking information below.

All three programmes will be designed primarily to meet the needs of specialist trainees in occupational medicine but will be open to all occupational health practitioners.

### **Venue for all three courses**

Institute of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (IOEM), School of Health and Population Sciences, University of Birmingham.

### **Course booking and enquiries**

Bookings for courses A and B and expressions of interest for course C should be channelled to Anna Morley, PGT Administrator at School of Health & Population Sciences, Institute of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, University of Birmingham | Edgbaston | Birmingham | B15 2TT.  
Tel: 0121 414 6013 | [a.j.morley@bham.ac.uk](mailto:a.j.morley@bham.ac.uk)

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## Part 2 MFOM examination dates in 2014

### **September/October 2014**

Written examination papers: 29 September 2014

OSPE: 14 October 2014

Closing date for entry: 4 August 2014

Further information about the Part 2 MFOM examination can be found on our website at: <http://www.fom.ac.uk/education/speciality-training/part-2-mfom-examination>

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## Trainee e-forum

The trainee e-forum provides an opportunity for trainees to discuss training issues, and share relevant information such as regional worksite visits and examination resources. So far nearly half our trainees have joined; 100% would be ideal!

If you wish to join, please email [Dan Ashdown](#) who will send you an invitation. Please note this forum is strictly for trainees and any views published in the forum are those of the individual and do not represent the views of the Faculty. The forum is also an opt-in group; it is not a requirement of training to join. Trainee information will continue to be disseminated from the Training Co-ordinator by the e-mailing list.

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## From the Trainee Representative: Dr Rae Chang

Congratulations to the Trainees who successfully passed the recent Part 1 and 2 MFOM examinations and good luck to those sitting in January /February 2014. The trainee e-forum is used for post-examination discussion. My personal experience is that the Chief Examiners have been very receptive to trainee feedback, and post-examination discussion in the e-forum directly contributed to the introduction of an examination feedback tool.

For new trainees; there is guidance on dissertation timetables, submission and FAQs in the June 2013 training newsletter, which you can access through your FOM login at <http://www.fom.ac.uk/newsletters/training>.

Dan Ashdown (Deputy Trainee Representative) is an active member of the Academy Trainee Doctors' Group (ATDG), representing Occupational Medicine. He recently became the ATDG Representative for the GMC Survey group, which is focusing presently on bullying and harassment across specialties. We would welcome any feedback you have about training concerns in this specialty, as most of us have experience from other specialties to share.

Thanks to the trainees and consultants who have arranged workplace visits and training sessions; particularly the South West and Central group including examination seminars and occupational hygiene teaching which have been useful teaching and networking. BT London hosted a large group of trainees for an insight into their Engineering operations beneath the Thames. There is a great deal of effort arranging these visits, so if you plan to host one in the next year, please contact us to disseminate information to all Trainees. For consultants involved in teaching and hosting; we can provide written feedback to use in your annual appraisal.

Work is progressing on the National School of Occupational Medicine which we hope will become a reality next year in a phased manner. Initially there will be centralised recruiting for NHS trainees. The plan is for ARCPs to be co-ordinated for NHS and Industry trainees. The aim is to have more regular ARCPs to ensure that those in smaller Deaneries/LETBs are not disadvantaged with timing. More information will follow from the Host LETB to all Trainees.

Rae Chang  
Contact details: [rae.w.chang@gmail.com](mailto:rae.w.chang@gmail.com)

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With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jayne Moore', with a horizontal line underneath.

Jayne Moore  
Director of Training

