



6th May, 2014

Mr Tony McNamara,
CEO,
Cork University Hospital,
Wilton,
Co. Cork

Report Letter relating to the inspection of the Gastroenterology department of Cork University Hospital on 15th November 2013

Dear Mr. McNamara,

The Irish Committee on Higher Medical Training (ICHMT) last inspected Cork University Hospital on the 15th November 2013 regarding its suitability for the Gastroenterology Higher Specialist Training (HST) programme.

The purpose of a hospital inspection is to determine the ability of an institution to deliver Higher Specialist Training in a specialty, according to the requirements as defined by the Gastroenterology curriculum of training. The inspection panel advises on the suitability after a detailed interview with consultant trainers, trainees and management representatives, with an inspection of the facilities.

The inspection committee commended Cork University Hospital on the commitment of the trainers to the Higher Specialist Training programme, and the support of the management team.

On the basis of the inspectors' recommendations, this unit is approved for Higher Specialist Training in Gastroenterology for:

- Number of Posts: **2 SpR posts**
- Length of Approval: **2 years**
- Trainers: Dr. Orla Crosby, Dr. Seamus O'Mahony
- Next Inspection Due: **End of 2015**
- Interim Progress Report: **due Nov 2014**

Inspection Panel:

- Dr. Claire Smyth – National Specialty Director
- Dr. Pat Sullivan - Inspection Chair

The education and training observations as confirmed by the ICHMT on advice from the Inspection Panel follow. Major issues are those that impact on the accreditation status or are critical for training approval. Minor issues are areas that could be improved but are not critical for training approval.

Educational Opportunities:

- Opportunities for research stemming

Strengths of the Department:

- 2 experienced full time consultants who are devoted to training
- Exposure to a wide range of pathology and presentations
- Good balance between gastroenterology and general internal medicine
- Regular MDT's with histopathology and radiology department

Weaknesses:

- Very heavy workload, at least one other consultant needed
- Endoscopy suite not fit for purpose, would not meet levels for JAG inspection
- Significant lack of space which impacts on SpR training and experience

Recommendations:

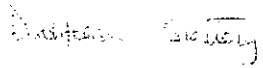
- Serious consideration needs to be given to weaknesses listed above

Conclusions:

- Approval given to the site for **2 SpR posts for 2 years pending the submission of a satisfactory interim report in November 2014 addressing issues listed above**

Thank you for the hospitality extended to the visiting inspection team and your continuing commitment to the Higher Specialist Training Programme.

Yours sincerely


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