



The College of Emergency Medicine

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Recommended Requirements for Locum Consultant posts in Emergency Medicine

Introduction

The College holds the strong view that doctors applying for locum Consultant posts in Emergency Medicine with responsibility for direct supervision of clinical staff at a more junior level should meet the requirements outlined below. The College acknowledges that while it may not always be possible to recruit doctors that meet all these requirements, particularly when a locum may be required at short notice, those with clinical responsibility for the ED must ensure that systems and processes are in place to minimise any risk to patients.

Essential

1. At least seven years full-time postgraduate training (or its equivalent gained on a part-time or flexible basis); at least 5 of which will be in a specialty training programme or a substantive service appointment in Emergency Medicine
2. At least 4 years, full time (or equivalent part-time/flexible), experience of working in a Consultant led Emergency Department; including at least 2 years' experience of supervising junior staff

or

Demonstrable, equivalent experience and competencies (equivalent to an ST6 Emergency Medicine trainee)

3. Current provider status in 2 or more of the following advanced life-support courses ALS, ATLS, APLS or other recognised, equivalent courses.

Desirable

4. A relevant recognised post graduate qualification e.g. FCEM/FRCS (A&E)
5. Evidence of an annual appraisal within the preceding 12 months, to include evidence of CPD in areas relevant to the specialty of Emergency Medicine
6. On the specialist register for Emergency Medicine or be within 3 months of obtaining CCT
7. At least 2 years' experience of working at middle grade level or above in a Consultant led Emergency Department that sees in excess of 16,000 children per annum or a children's Emergency Department
8. Current instructor status in one or more of ALS, ATLS, APLS or other recognised, equivalent courses.

Excellence in Emergency Care

Locum Consultant Appointments

Annex D of *The National Health Service (Appointment of Consultants) Regulations Good Practice Guidance* (DH, Jan 1995) states the following regarding Locum Consultant appointments:

Locum appointments are exempt provided the employment is for an initial period not exceeding six months and any extension for a maximum period of a further six months is subject to a satisfactory review by the Trust and to consultation with the relevant College.

It is important that Trusts have satisfactory procedures in place to ensure that locum consultants are of adequate standard. There should always be assessment of the candidates by an 'appointments' committee, including at least two professional members, one in the specialty concerned. Where a locum is to be appointed at short notice and is not already known to the Trust, he or she should be seen by at least one of the hospital consultants before he or she is engaged. It is important that references are obtained for all locum appointments, irrespective of the short-term nature of the post.

Professional Standards Committee
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