



Comhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis Medical Council

FINAL REPORT ON MONITORING VISIT UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK'S GRADUATE ENTRY PROGRAMME 25TH AND 26TH NOVEMBER 2010

MEDICAL COUNCIL MONITORING TEAM

Ms Katharine Bulbulia (Chair of the Team and Medical Council Member)

Ms Marie Murray (Medical Council Member)

Professor Alan Johnson (External Assessor)

Associate Professor Geraldine MacCarrick (External Assessor)

Accompanied by:

Ms Karen Willis (Senior Executive Officer, Education and Training)

Ms Aoife Fitzsimons (Clerical Officer, Education and Training)

Statement with regard to the Freedom of Information Acts, 1997 and 2003

The Medical Council currently makes information routinely available to the public in relation to its functions and activities and, in line with that practice, a summary of this report will be available on the Council's website, www.medicalcouncil.ie in due course.

The Freedom of Information Act is designed to allow public access to information held by public bodies which is not routinely available through other sources and access to this document may be sought in accordance with that Act. The Medical Council complies fully with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. It should be noted that access to information under the Freedom of Information Act is subject to certain exemptions and one or more of those exemptions may apply in relation to some or all of this report.

A. PREFACE

1. Context of the visit

The University of Limerick (UL) has established a four-year programme leading to the award of a degree of BM BS (Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery). It is at undergraduate (basic in the terminology of the World Federation of Medical Education) level with an exclusively graduate entry. The Medical Council following a visit in May 2007 provisionally accredited the programme; the programme began in September 2007; and the Medical Council revisited in November 2007, December 2008, May 2009, December 2009 and most recently in May 2010.

A Monitoring Team representing the Medical Council undertook a visit on 25th and 26th November 2010. Its remit was to monitor the progress of the provisionally accredited programme and to formulate a recommendation to the Medical Council's Professional Development Committee. The focus of the visit to the University of Limerick was on the final year of the programme, specifically, the clinical placements in medicine and surgery. It had been agreed at the previous monitoring visit that clinical training sites would be assessed and for the purposes of this report, the sites at Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore, Portiuncula Hospital, Ballinasloe and Mid-Western Regional Hospital, Dooradoyle were visited.

2. Appendices

- The agenda is attached as Appendix 1.
- The University staff that took part in the process is listed in Appendix 2.
- UL's presentation to the Team is attached as Appendix 3

3. Appreciation

The Team thank Mr John O'Brien, HSE National Director and Integrated Services Manager in the Mid-West, Mr Mark Sparling and Mr Fergal Flynn for meeting the Team in a separate session.

The Team also wish to record their thanks to the students who took part in the visit as their views are most helpful in forming this report.

4. The Team

The Medical Council Monitoring Team is listed on the title page of this report. Special mention must be made of external assessors Professor Alan Johnson and Professor Geraldine MacCarrick who brought additional expertise in quality assurance of medical education to the accreditation process, and the Medical Council appreciates their contribution.

The Medical Council also thanks the University of Limerick Team, led by Professor Paul Finucane, Foundation Head of the University's Graduate-Entry Medical School, for their co-operation and hospitality.

5. Documentation

Prior to the visit, the Monitoring Team reviewed the Medical Council reports following visits to the University of Limerick in December 2009 and May 2010, along with the University's response to those reports.

B. SUMMARY AND MAIN RECOMMENDATION TO PDC

The Monitoring Team identified many positive features of the UL programme and its delivery. These included the commitment shown by the comprehensive and very informative presentation by University of Limerick, and the gratifyingly high turnout of UL staff for all sessions. The Team have highlighted a number of matters arising from the visit about which it will seek a UL response, and which will be the subject of ongoing monitoring.

The students continue to be positive about the quality of their educational experience at UL. Their views are incorporated into this report.

The Team recommend continued provisional accreditation for the programme. However, a revisit will be scheduled for spring 2011, when the first cohort of UL students will be in their final semester of the programme.

The Team asked for an update on the recruitment of the Senior Academic appointments in Regional Hospitals. The Team had the opportunity to meet with the newly-appointed Professor and Associate Professor of Surgery. The Team is aware that there have been logistical difficulties in filling the Professor and Associate Professor of Medicine posts, however the HSE component of the funding has now been identified from within existing resources and it is hoped that the posts will be advertised before the end of 2010.

The Team understand that formal contractual arrangements have been completed for the Chair in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and that Professor Amanda Cotter will take up her post on 10th January 2011.

The Team wish to have an update on what contingency plans UL have in place should the appropriate senior academic positions in Medicine continue to remain unoccupied.

C. EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAMME

MIDLAND REGIONAL HOSPITAL, TULLAMORE

Ms Anne Pardy, Medical Manpower Manager
Dr Gerard Crotty, Clinical Director
Mr Sean Johnston, Consultant Surgeon
Ms Marie Gunning, Administrator
Dr Killian O'Rourke, Consultant Rheumatologist
Mr Dermot Hehir, Consultant Surgeon
Dr John McManus, Consultant Physician

Meeting with Clinicians

The Visiting Team wish to thank the representatives of the hospital, along with the students, for meeting with them during the visit. The Team noted that the clinicians were very enthusiastic about having the University of Limerick Graduate Entry Medical School students in placement with them. The representatives said that there was regular, frequent communication with the University and that there was proactive engagement and active involvement with exam setting. The Team was informed that the students were very focussed and motivated. They integrated well in their attachments and in the hospital to which they had been assigned.

However, the concern was expressed to the Team that increasing numbers of students in future years may somewhat 'dilute' their experience in Tullamore and it seems apparent that the clinicians (as in other hospitals) are teaching the students on a so-called 'grace and favour' basis which is not sustainable with larger numbers in the longer term. **The Team recommend that appropriate measures such as formal academic contracts outlining formal commitment and dedicated, protected time for teaching, be put in place to address these concerns.**

With regard to assessment, the clinicians have been asked to contribute to the upcoming assessments.

Meeting with Students

The Visiting Team met with eight students: four students from third year and four from fourth year. The students informed the Visiting Team that they were very enthusiastic about the time they have spent in the Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore. They praised the teaching staff and felt very included and involved in the Teams they had been assigned to. In addition to their rotations in medicine, surgery, orthopaedics, otorhinolaryngology, and Emergency Department, they have also gained experience in radiology and pathology. The students reported that the electronic logbook was time consuming and inflexible and this is discussed in more detail later in this report.

Concern was expressed by the students regarding the In-Training Assessment (ITA) forms particularly as these contribute one third of their overall grade. It was felt that the marking was somewhat subjective and uneven and that the scale of marks available i.e. 1-6 did not allow sufficient discrimination. They also felt that the marks were sometimes

at variance with verbal feedback and did not reflect their overall commitment and effort **and the Team recommend that this matter be monitored.**

The students feel adequately supported by University of Limerick staff and Ms Mary Gamble was particularly praised for her role in this regard.

PORTIUNCULA HOSPITAL, BALLINASLOE

Meeting with Clinicians

Dr Olivia Dunne

Mr Brendan Harding

Ms Maura Kelly

Dr Ger Clarke

Dr Maeve Durkan

The Visiting Team was informed that Portiuncula Hospital in Ballinasloe had previously received students from National University of Ireland Galway, and as such, were well placed to receive students from University of Limerick, who had integrated very well into the hospital. The clinicians informed the Visiting Team that the University of Limerick students have been very driven and motivated and they interact very closely with consultant staff.

The clinicians stated that they have received a good deal of support from University of Limerick and that Professor Finucane is very approachable. The clinicians had received a number of briefings with University of Limerick staff and had received precise learning objectives and a curriculum for the students, although the Problem-Based Learning approach is very different in structure to more traditional curricula. The clinicians feel that they can influence the programme and they are asked for feedback. The clinicians agree that it is an evolving programme but that UL are very open to change if it becomes necessary.

The use of the ITA was also reported as causing some difficulties for staff at Portiuncula Hospital, Ballinasloe. It was suggested by staff that an extended scale might alleviate some of their concerns. There also seemed to be variable use of ITA, for instance, Dr Dunne informed the Team that as part of the ITA, she conducts a 360° assessment, consulting with patients and allied health care professionals as part of the process. In addition, she monitors all ITA raters to ensure the process is standardised and to identify potential 'hawks' and 'doves'. This did not seem to be a universally applied process. Students were not aware that input from other health care providers was being sought.

The *Anthology of Medical Conditions* was cited as being very useful for Problem Based Learning but less useful for ward-based learning. Students felt that it was too generic and wide reaching and that it was often of no assistance. An example of this was that it does not subdivide enough, for example 'abdominal pain' covers a very wide range of conditions. The students did think that the book had useful illustrations and with the logbook was a good measure of the curriculum. Faculty were aware of these concerns and were considering modifying the content of the Anthology.

As with the Midland Regional Hospital in Tullamore, there is no formal Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Limerick and the clinicians delivering the

programme on the ground and that this is not sustainable indefinitely. **The Team wish to reinforce with the University that it is imperative that this matter be resolved.**

Meeting with Students

The Visiting Team met with eight students: four students from third year and four from fourth year. The students reported that the clinical experience has been very good for them and that they are very positive about their roles and feeling part of the team. They were particularly complimentary of Dr Olivia Dunne and they said that they have the opportunity to attend many different clinics while also being given a lot of responsibility. They feel there is a lot more one-to-one time with the consultants, something which they did not experience when they were on their placements in some of the bigger Limerick hospitals.

They also appear to be quite concerned about the In-Training Assessment scoring, saying that they believe it to be very subjective and that it is possible to get a poor grade despite putting in significant work and considerable hours. Consistency of scoring seems to be a problem and this causes them concern due to the fact that it is worth one third of their final marks.

In addition, they are particularly concerned that there will be no mock Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) before their final examinations in 2011. They are concerned that they are the first cohort and as such have no access to previous exams to help them prepare. The Visiting Team recognise that these are natural anxieties for a pioneering class.

The students praised their class representatives in particular. However, the Visiting Team was informed that the proposed date of graduation has been a source of serious concern for them, due to the fact that it is to take place in August 2011, which is after the closing date for registration with the Medical Council as an intern. This issue is further discussed below.

PLENARY SESSION WITH UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK REPRESENTATIVES

The Visiting Team wish to thank Professor Finucane for the comprehensive and very informative presentation (see Appendix 3), and very much appreciate the high turnout of UL staff for the plenary session in particular. The Visiting Team was given an update on the primary care teaching networks and noted with pleasure that Professor Walter Cullen has now attracted the support of 55 general practices. The Team was given an update by the recently appointed Professor of Surgery (Professor Calvin Coffey) and Associate Professor of Surgery (Professor Stewart Walsh). The Visiting Team was also given updates on medicine, obstetrics and gynaecology, psychiatry and paediatrics.

Curriculum (WFME Standard 2: Educational Programme)

- **Relationship between campus/ site based education and training**

The Visiting Team is satisfied that video linking and audio-visual facilities are being utilised in order to maintain the relationship between the UL campus and clinical training site-based education and training.

- **Student Selected Modules (SSM) / Research Module**

Students in Year 4 have completed a Humanities and Research SSM which included written project and poster presentation. The Team was impressed by the range of SSMs undertaken, reflecting the diverse backgrounds of the students. As previously suggested during the May 2010 visit however, students would welcome an opportunity to publicly present their Humanities SSMs both within the Medical School and the wider UL student community and such an opportunity and forum should be provided.

Assessment (WFME Standard 3: Assessment of Students)

The Visiting Team was given an overview of the proposed written and Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) for the end of the Academic Year 2010-2011. It is proposed to use the OSCEs developed at St George's University, London as a guide, with some local adjustment. The Angoff method of standard setting will be used for the OSCEs. They were also given an update on the Reflective Journals and manner in which the domain of professionalism is assessed. The Visiting Team was particularly impressed by data comparing mean Personal Progress Index (PPI) scores for UL students with students at comparable stages in McMaster University, Canada, which demonstrated that the rate of knowledge acquisition is similar in both medical schools.

The use of the ITA was consistently reported as causing confusion for both staff and students. Further faculty development and clarity around the rationale for use of the ITA and further training in standardised use of the instrument (given its significant contribution to the overall grade) would be beneficial. The intention of the assessment strategy to combine (potentially more) valid assessments (eg ITA inclusive of 360° input) with (potentially more) reliable assessments (eg OSCEs) needs to be further emphasised to both faculty and students. This may improve compliance with the intended use of ITA at UL.

The Visiting Team recommend that extensive training in In-Training Assessment be given to the clinicians involved in completing the forms, along with coaching on how to deliver feedback.

The Team was informed that an agreement has been signed with Kaplan (a company that specialises in test preparation for Medical Licensing examinations) for a United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Preparation Programme to be made available for the current cohort in second year. However, the students currently in Year 3 and Year 4 will not benefit from this.

Senior Appointments (WFME Standard 5: Academic Staff / Faculty)

The Team was informed that an appointment of a Professor of Medicine is still awaited, as is the appointment of an Associate Professor of Medicine.

The Team highlighted, once again, the priority of appropriately filling these posts. While the Team is satisfied that an interim arrangement is in place, the Team is nevertheless concerned that the interim arrangement is not sustainable in the longer term. The Team

was encouraged by the comments from Mr John O'Brien, HSE that funding arrangements for the posts had been agreed and that they would be advertised before Christmas and Mr O'Brien agreed to write to the Medical Council to confirm these arrangements.

Facilities / Resources / Capacity (WFME Standard 6: Educational resources)

- **Medical School Building**

The Visiting Team was informed that the new Medical School Building is now at 'roof level', and is due for completion in mid-2011.

- **Capacity**

The Team is concerned that increasing numbers of students may put pressure not alone on facilities, but also on the hospital-based clinicians who are currently not signed up to a Memorandum of Understanding (although the primary care clinicians are). UL continue to be very aware of this requirement and it remains high on their agenda. UL are working within a framework of a Medical Education Liaison Group and a concordat agreement between the HSE and the six medical schools remains on the national agenda.

- **Education and Research centre and Library / IT Infrastructure**

Discussion focussed once again on the need for an Education and Research centre at Dooradoyle to include student facilities, clinical laboratories, library and IT, lecture theatres, tutorial rooms, research facilities and staff offices.

The Visiting Team viewed the facilities first hand during its visit to the clinical training site on the second day of the Monitoring Visit. The Medical Council is very aware of the deficiencies in the Dooradoyle campus, including the lack of clinical tutorial rooms near patient areas. There have been additional problems with the library facilities and IT infrastructure. **It is apparent that the University of Limerick are making the best of limited and unsatisfactory resources, however the Team recommend that the issues be addressed as a matter of urgency.** At their meeting with the HSE representatives, the Team was assured that planning permission has been sought and the funding for the Education and Research Centre project has been secured and has been ring-fenced. The representatives from the HSE undertook to write to the Medical Council via the Education and Training Section, outlining the position and the imminent plans.

The Team is satisfied that the University of Limerick have made every effort to maximise video conferencing to affiliated clinical sites. The dedicated IT/AF officer, Mr Niall Collins, has clearly had a positive impact on the programme and the feedback from students was that IT/AV facilities are much improved and any issues arising are dealt with quickly and satisfactorily.

- **Electronic logbook**

It seems apparent that the previously identified "teething problems" with the electronic logbook still remain. Many students across all years, questioned its usefulness reporting that it was time consuming to complete and often did not reflect the variety of cases they

were seeing as part of their current rotation. These sentiments were also expressed by supervising clinicians. **This should be addressed.** In addition, a difficulty in completing the logbook seems to stem from the fact that sometimes students did not get the full case history from a patient, only a “snap shot” of it, for example if a student was brought to theatre with a patient they only got brief history of that procedure and not the entire case history of that particular patient.

The team understand that the logbook was to be redesigned (with input from UL GEMS students who have an IT background) and that a new version was to be tested. However, it was not evident that the redesign had significantly improved the electronic logbook format. Constraints on time during the visit did not permit the Visiting Team the opportunity to view the redesigned logbook but it would seem that it has not yet resulted in overwhelming satisfaction on the part of the students.

The Team recommend that a comprehensive review of the electronic logbook be undertaken in order to try to iron out these difficulties.

- **Student Welfare and Counselling**

The medical school has formal links with student counselling services and also has a personal and professional development programme.

- **Professional Conduct Committee**

The Team is satisfied that a Professional Conduct Committee is in place which can provide support and guidance in the event of disciplinary proceedings against a student.

- **Graduation and Registration with the Medical Council**

The Visiting Team was concerned to hear from both the students and the faculty, that the graduation ceremony for the Graduate Entry Medical School students is not to be held until August 2011. The Visiting Team wish to point out, that the Medical Practitioners Act 2007 states under Section 49(1) with regard to eligibility for internship registration:

“The Council shall register in the Trainee Specialist Division a medical practitioner who has completed a course of study in the State or a Member State resulting in the award of a basic medical qualification and who intends to practise medicine in an individually numbered, identifiable Intern post which has been approved by the Council for the purposes of intern training”.

The Medical Council's Guide to Registration further states the following with regard to providing evidence of basic (primary) medical qualifications:

“Applicants must submit a notarised/attested copy of the degree awarded to them on conferral of their basic (primary) medical qualification (commonly known as a “carton degree”), clearly displaying the full date of conferral. If the applicant cannot provide a copy of their carton degree, a duplicate may be submitted for consideration. Some basic medical qualifications will be verified directly with the medical school. Graduates of Irish medical schools are not required to provide a copy of their basic (primary) medical qualification as the Medical Council receives sealed Conferral lists directly from all Irish medical schools/awarding bodies as evidence of their qualification.”

The Visiting Team is concerned, and indeed this has previously been communicated to University of Limerick, that in order to be registered with the Medical Council of Ireland and to practise in an individually numbered, identifiable intern training post, one must have been conferred with a basic medical qualification. **Therefore the Visiting Team strenuously urge the University to reconsider their position regarding the proposed date of conferral.**

MID-WESTERN REGIONAL HOSPITAL, DOORADOYLE

Meeting with First and Second Year Students

As with previous cohorts, the current first and second year students find that Problem-Based Learning is a new experience for them and that different tutors have different styles. They feel that the programme is not competitive in nature and they all appear to work well together. As regards assessment, they feel that it is sometimes hard to know where to focus their attention, however, they do feel prepared for the OSCEs which will take place next semester.

Meeting with Third and Fourth Year Students

The Visiting Team met with a large number of students from third and fourth year, including two students who were on video-link from Kilkenny. They reported that they have had very good experiences in their respective hospitals in Limerick, Clonmel and Kilkenny. Concerns were raised once again about the marking of the In-Training Assessment forms, and feedback appears to vary between consultants. The fourth years raised concerns about their upcoming exams, while the third years would like more assessment. The students from Clonmel in particular said they have had a positive experience there, however a surgical tutor is pending replacement and therefore they are particularly concerned about the surgical experience they have gained.

Regarding the facilities in Dooradoyle, the third and fourth year students are aware that they are the first cohorts but that nevertheless, the facilities could be better.

Some of the students raised the concern that they felt overwhelmed by their placements in Milford Hospice owing to a feeling of being inadequately prepared this early in their training and uncertainty about their role on the team there. **The Visiting Team recommend that these matters be addressed before another cohort enters a placement in Milford Hospice.**

There does not appear to be any radiology input in the Mid-Western Regional Hospital in Dooradoyle, however the Emergency Department was particularly praised as being an excellent experience and students feel that this rotation should be expanded upon.

Finally, the issue of accommodation and support was raised in the context of general practice placements. It was pointed out that some general practice placements are in particularly remote areas and it was felt by some students that these rotations, particularly given their duration, could indeed contribute to feelings of isolation and detachment. **The Medical School should be mindful of this concern.**

Signed by Chair of the Visiting Team:

Ms Katharine Bulbulia

Dated:

End of report



Comhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis
Medical Council

APPENDICES



**Comhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis
Medical Council**

AGENDA

MONITORING VISIT TO UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK GRADUATE ENTRY PROGRAMME

**DATE: THURSDAY 25TH AND
FRIDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2010**

VISITING TEAM

Ms Katharine Bulbulia (Medical Council Member and Chair of the Visiting Team)
Ms Marie Murray (Medical Council Member)
Professor Alan Johnson (External Assessor)
Associate Professor Geraldine MacCarrick (External Assessor)

Accompanied by

Ms Karen Willis (Medical Council staff)
Ms Aoife Fitzsimons (Medical Council staff)

VENUES:

DAY ONE

CLINICAL TRAINING SITES

DAY TWO

MID-WESTERN REGIONAL HOSPITAL DOORADOYLE

DAY ONE – THURSDAY 25TH NOVEMBER CLINICAL TRAINING SITES

8.00 am – 10.00 am

*Visiting Team to travel from Kingram House, Dublin 2
to Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore, arriving 10.00 am*

10.00 am – 12.00 pm Visiting Team to visit and to meet with management and the clinicians involved in education and training at **Midland Regional Hospital Tullamore** (10.00 – 11.00 am)

11.00 am – 12.00 pm Visiting Team to meet with students followed **by departure of team at 12.00 pm**

12.00 pm – 1.00 pm

*Visiting Team to travel from Tullamore to
Portiuncula Hospital, Ballinasloe, arriving 1.00 pm*

1.00 – 2.00 pm Light lunch to be provided for the visiting team (in private)

2.00 – 3.00 pm Visiting Team to visit and to meet with management and the clinicians involved in education and training at **Portiuncula Hospital, Ballinasloe** and to review the facilities (2.00 – 3.00 pm)

3.00 – 4.00 pm Visiting Team to meet with students followed **by departure of team at 4.00 pm**

4.00 pm – 6.00 pm

Visiting Team to travel from Ballinasloe to Hotel, Limerick, arriving 6.00 pm

6.00 pm – 7.30 pm Visiting Team to meet with members of **University of Limerick faculty** for Plenary Session with University of Limerick and Affiliated Hospitals representatives from Medical, Surgical, Paediatric, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Psychiatry and General Practice specialties

The **Plenary Session** will include a formal presentation to the Council team 6.00 – 6.45 pm. This is will be followed by a question and answer session from 6.45 – 7.30 pm.

The UL presentation should include:

- An overview of the delivery of the programme, including any changes since the Council's previous visit, to the structure and delivery of the curriculum
- Plans for the remainder of the 2010/11 academic year
- Plans for the 2011/12 academic year
- New / proposed appointments
- Student and staff feedback on the programme
- A statement on student assessment and on course evaluation processes.



Comhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis Medical Council

AGENDA

UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK GRADUATE ENTRY PROGRAMME

DAY TWO – FRIDAY 26th NOVEMBER 2010 MID-WESTERN REGIONAL HOSPITAL, DOORADOYLE

Departure Time 7.45 am

*Visiting Team to travel from Hotel, Limerick
to Mid-Western Regional Hospital, Dooradoyle
Arriving 8.15 am at the Postgraduate Centre
Light refreshments to be provided*

8.30 am – 9.15 am	Additional plenary Session with University of Limerick and Affiliated Hospitals representatives from Medical, Surgical, Paediatric, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Psychiatry and General Practice specialties to follow up on discussions from the initial session the previous evening.
9.15 am – 10.00 am	Meeting with HSE Management
10.00 – 10.15 am	Tea and Coffee break
10.15 – 11.15 am	Meeting with third and fourth year students (incorporating videolink/teleconference with students who have been placed in Kilkenny only – Clonmel students to be represented)
11.15 - 12.15 pm	Meeting with first and second year students

*Visiting Team to travel from Mid-Western Regional Hospital, Dooradoyle, departing 12.15 pm
Arriving 12.30 pm at the Hotel, Limerick*

12.15 – 1.00 pm	Light working lunch for Medical Council team (in private)
1.00 – 1.30 pm	Plenary session for Medical Council Team (in private)
1.30– 2.00 pm	Meeting with Medical Council Assessment Team and UL Representatives to discuss findings followed by departure of team at 2.15 pm

*Visiting Team to travel from Hotel to Dublin
Departing 2.15/2.30 pm*

APPENDIX 2 - UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK TEAM

Prof Paul Finucane
Ms Mairead Waters
Ms Mary Gamble
Prof Bill Shannon
Dr Deirdre McGrath
Prof Nigel Lawes
Prof William OConnor
Prof Colum Dunne
Mr Niall Collins
Dr Yoga Velupillai
Dr Nabil Antwan
Dr Jean Saunders
Mr Mark Dixon
Ms Denise Flannery
Prof Clodagh O'Gorman
Prof Walter Cullen
Prof David Meagher
Dr Maeve Leonard
Prof Calvin Coffey
Prof Stewart Walsh
Mr Eamon Kavanagh
Dr Anthony Dempsey
Prof Dominic Harmon
Prof Pierce Grace
Dr Peter Coyle
Mr David Waldron
Dr Michael Watts
Dr Tom Stack
Dr Barry Lenane
Mr John O'Brien
Mr Fergal Flynn
Mr Mark Sparling
Dr Pat O'Dwyer
Dr Manus McGuire
Dr Gary Stack
Dr Aidan Culhane
Prof Paul McCutcheon
Ms Donna O'Doibhlin
Ms Aoife Geraghty
Dr Siobhan Gallagher
Dr Roy Philip
Dr John McManus

Mr Sean Johnston
Mr Peter Waters
Dr Asad Khan
Ms Anne Pardy
Ms Marie Gunning
Dr Killian O'Rourke
Dr Abubakr Rayis
Mr Dermot Hehir
Dr Gerard Crotty
Dr Olivia Dunne
Mr Brendan Harding
Dr Gerry Clarke
Dr Maeve Durkan
Dr Paraic Curran
Ms Maura Kelly
Ms Mary Whelehan

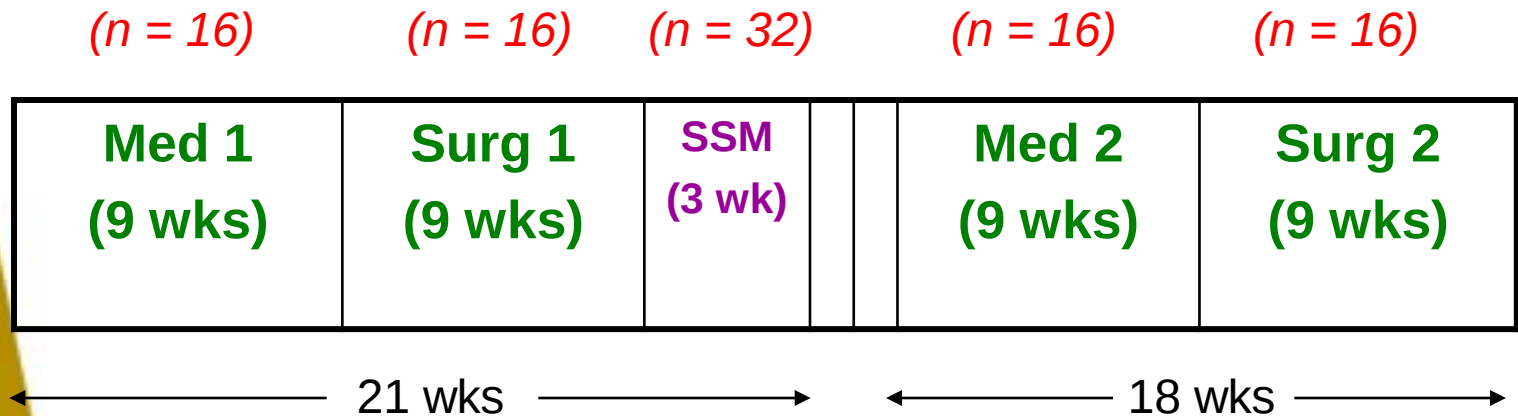
Presentation to Medical Council Visiting Team

November 25th & 26th, 2010

Brief for MC visit

- Review delivery of Yrs 3 & 4 to date
- Plans for rest of 2010/11 academic year
- Plans for 2011/12 academic year
- New/proposed appointments
- Student & Faculty feedback on programme
- Student Assessment & Course Evaluation
- Q & A

Yr 4 in 2010/11: (32 students)



At any given time:

- 16 students at the MWRH (Limerick, Ennis, Nenagh & St John's)
- 4 students at Portiuncula, Ballinasloe
- 4 students at South Tipperary Gen Hospital, Clonmel
- 4 students at St Luke's, Kilkenny
- 4 students at Midlands Regional, Tullamore

Yr 3 in 2010/11: (58 students)



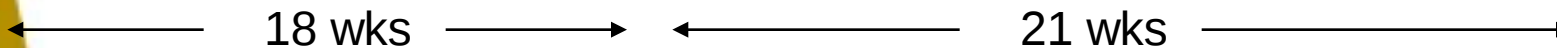
(n = 29)

(n = 15)

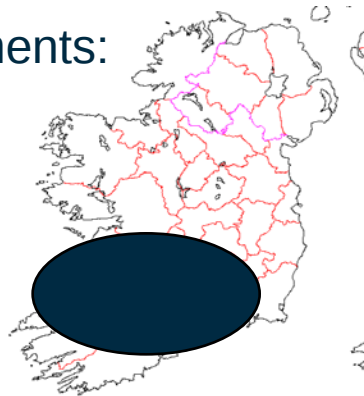
(n = 15)

(n = 58)

General Practice (18 wks)		Med 1 (9 wks)	Surg 1 (9 wks)	SSM (3 wks)
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GP Placements:



Hospital Placements:

- MWRH - 16 students
- Ballinasloe - 4 students
- Tullamore - 4 students
- Kilkenny - 4 students
- Clonmel - 4 students

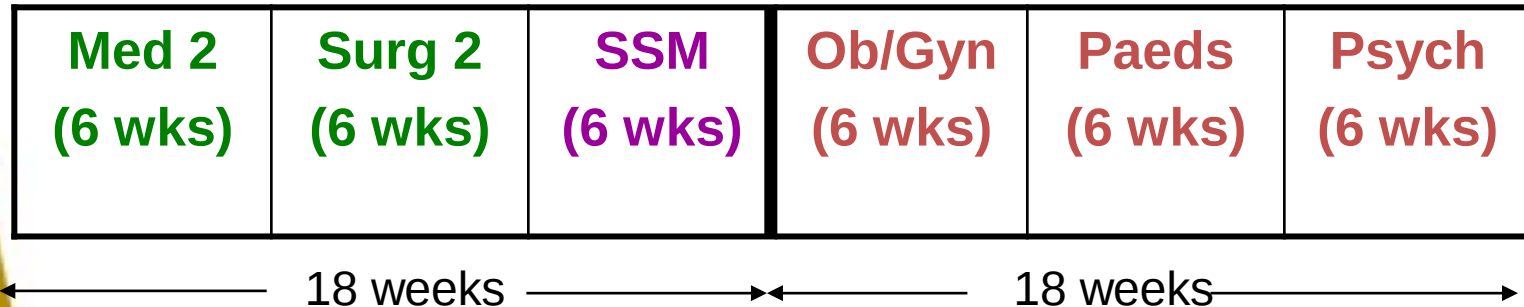
SSM: Humanities & Health

Reports from:

- General Practice
 - Prof Walter Cullen
- Medicine
 - Dr Mike Watts
- Surgery
 - Prof Calvin Coffey & A/Prof Stewart Walsh

Yr 4 in 2011/12

(58 students)



- Maximum of 10 students in any clinical placement at any given time
- SSM can be undertaken in any clinical discipline and in any clinical site (incl. overseas)
- SSM proposal must be approved in advance

Yr 3 in 2011/12:

(90 students)



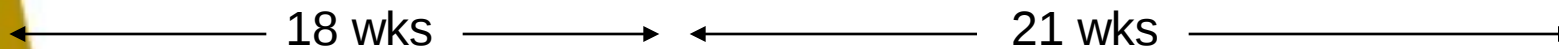
(n = 45)

(n = 24)

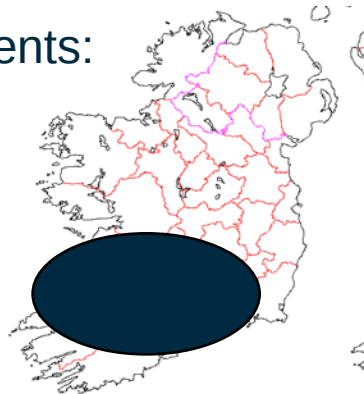
(n = 24)

(n = 90)

General Practice (18 wks)		Med 1 (9 wks)	Surg 1 (9 wks)	SSM (3 wks)
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GP Placements:



Hospital Placements:

- MWRH - 24 students
- Ballinasloe - 6 students
- Tullamore - 6 students
- Kilkenny - 6 students
- Clonmel - 6 students

SSM: Humanities & Health

Statements from:

- General Practice - Prof Walter Cullen
- Medicine - Dr Mike Watts
- Surgery - Prof Calvin Coffey & A/Prof Stewart Walsh
- Psychiatry – Prof David Meagher
- Paediatrics – Prof Clodagh O’Gorman
- Obstetrics/Gynae – Prof W Shannon

New Appointments:

- Professor of Surgery
- A/Professor of Surgery
- A/Professor of Biomedical Statistics
- Professor of Medicine
- A/Professor of Medicine
- Professor of Primary Care (Research)
- Snr. Lecturer in Clinical Pharmacology

New Appointments (contd.):

- Large number of Adjunct (i.e. Honorary) appointments across a range of clinical disciplines and a range of clinical sites.
- New appointments of PBL Tutors & Clinical Skills tutors for Yrs 1 & 2 (to deal with 28% increase in student numbers, from 151 to 194).

New Appointments (contd.):

- **Sharon Nolan**, Executive Administrator, MWRH
- **Gillian Madigan**, Senior Administrator, MWRH
- **Mary Whelehan**, Portiuncula Hospital, Ballinasloe
- **Marie Gunning**, Midlands Regional Hospital, Tullamore
- **Christina Moylan**, South Tipperary General Hospital, Clonmel
- **Brid Fitzgerald**, St Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny

Student Feedback:

- Formal and informal feedback from both Yr 3 & Yr 4 students on clinical teaching to date
- **Informal:**
 - Regular meetings between Faculty, Support Staff and Students on all clinical sites.
 - Role of Clinical Tutors particularly valuable.
- **Formal:**
 - Student survey at end of first 9-week block (i.e. early Oct 1010)

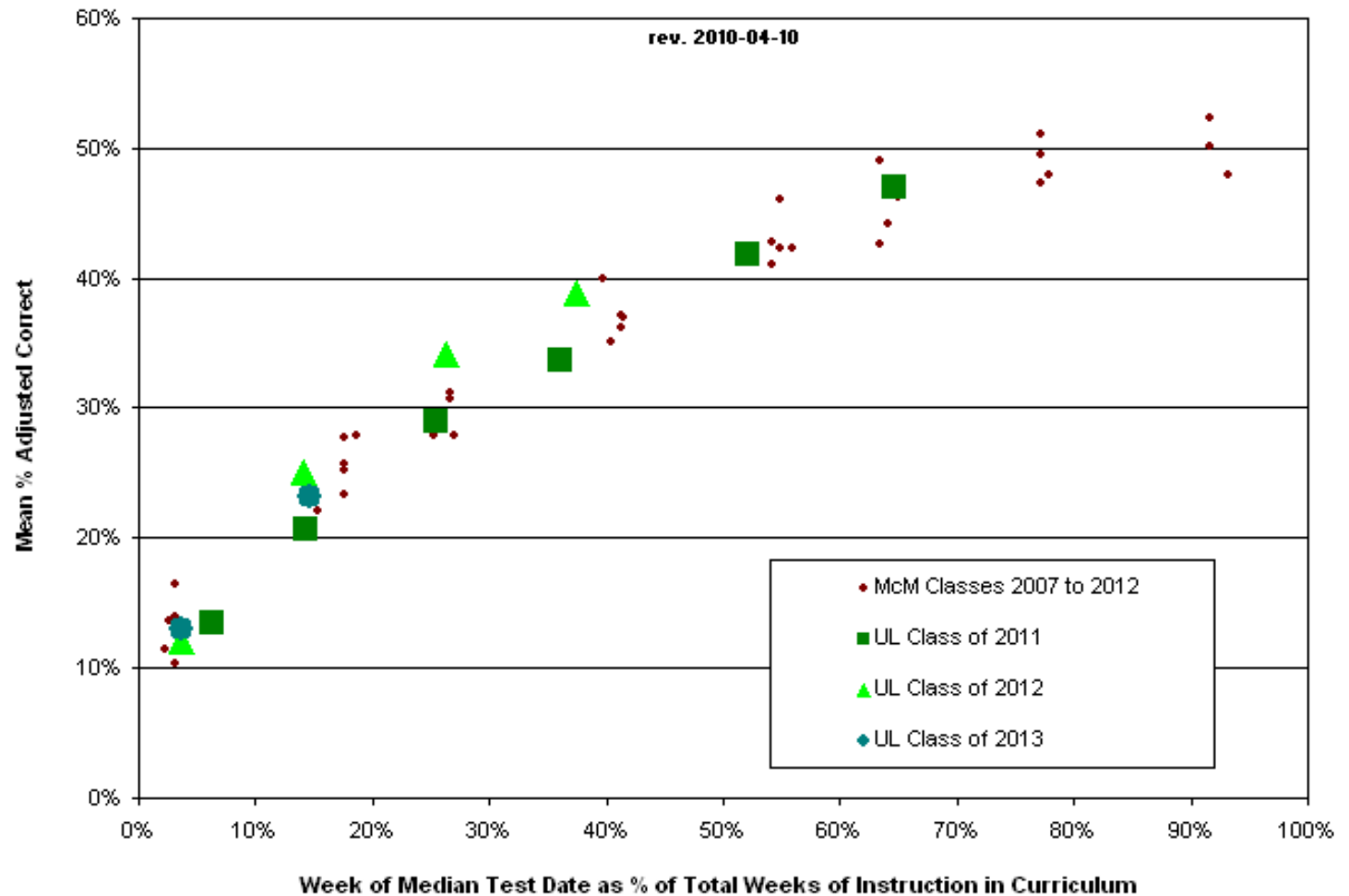
Faculty Feedback:

- **Informal** feedback from Clinical Supervisors on all clinical sites
 - Regular meetings with Clinical Supervisors in General Practice and at MWRH, Ballinasloe, Tullamore, Kilkenny, Clonmel.
 - Regular Clinical Tutor Workshops
 - Surgical Education Committee
- **Formal** feedback to Yrs 3 & 4 Working Group and to Education Committee.

Student Assessment:

- **Formative**
 - **Personal Progress Index**
- **Summative**
 - **In-Training Assessment (ITA)**
 - 4 assessments in Yr 4; 1 completed to date
 - 3 assessments in Yr 3; 1 completed to date
 - **Assessment of:**
 - Knowledge of Health & Illness in Yrs 3 & 4
 - Clinical Skills in Yrs 3 & 4
 - Professional Competencies in Yrs 3 & 4

Limerick & McMaster — Mean Percent Adjusted Correct for the Whole Test



Course Evaluation:

- Under the remit of the Assessment & Course Evaluation (ACE) Working Group
- End of module feedback across all 4 years
- Dundee Ready Education Environment Measure (DREEM) and Teacher Education Environment Measure (TEEM)

End of appendices