



Comhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis
Medical Council



**Report on the Inspection of Mungret
Medical Centre, Castlemungret,
Mungret, Co. Limerick, V94 X004**

19th January 2024



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Medical Council



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About the Medical Council

The Medical Council's remit is patient safety, and the Medical Council is the regulatory body for doctors in Ireland. The Council is comprised of 25 members (13 non-medical and 12 medical members). The Council maintains the Register of Medical Practitioners in the Republic of Ireland. The Register lists all doctors who are legally permitted to carry out medical work in Ireland.

The Medical Council has a statutory role in protecting the public by promoting the highest professional standards amongst doctors practising in Ireland. The Council sets the standards for medical education and training. It oversees lifelong learning and skills development throughout doctors' professional careers through its professional competence requirements. It is charged with promoting good medical practice. The Medical Council is also where the public may make a complaint against a doctor.

Context for Intern Inspections

As part of the Medical Council's regulatory and quality assurance role, the Council sets and monitors adherence to standards for education and training as set out in Medical Practitioners Act 2007.

For Intern clinic training sites, the standards for education and training are set out in the [Standards for Training and Experience Required for the Granting of a Certificate of Experience to an Intern](#). These standards have been drawn up in fulfilment of the Medical Council's responsibilities under Part 10 of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007, to specify and publish in the prescribed manner, the standards for training and experience for interns which is required for the granting of a certificate of experience (section 88 (3) (d)).

The Council monitors compliance and adherence to these standards via site inspections and monitoring processes.





INSPECTION REPORT – MUNGRET MEDICAL CENTRE.

Date of Inspection: 19th January 2024
Location: Mungret Medical Centre, Castlemungret, Mungret, Limerick, V94 X004

Inspection Team

Assessor Team: Prof John Jenkins (Chair)
Ms Lesley Costello

Executive support: Ms Sarah Jane Bowen - Inspections Manager
Mr Cormac Glynn- Quality Assurance Executive

Inspection considerations and decision-making process:

The assessor team considered all documentation submitted by Mungret Medical Centre, the self-evaluation form and supporting documentation received prior to the visit. Additionally, information and explanations provided by the supervisors and trainers and interns at the site when assessing the clinical training site's compliance with Medical Council Standards for Training and Experience Required for the Granting of a Certificate of Experience to an Intern.

A level of compliance will be applied to each standard based on documentation reviewed as mentioned above, information gathered from interviews and the facilities walk. The varying levels of compliance that can be allocated to each standard are highlighted below.

Recommendation and Commendations can be offered based on the compliance rating and any general observations by the Team following the inspection visit.

Level of Compliance for each Standard can be rated as:

Non- compliance (NC)



Partial compliance (PC)



Full compliance (FC)





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Standard 1: Rotations

Which category of interns did you meet?

Surgery in general	☐	Medicine in general	☐	Emergency Medicine	☐
General Practice	☒	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	☐	Paediatrics	☐
Anaesthesia	☐	Radiology	☐	Psychiatry	☐

Duration of Rotation: 3 months

Criteria	FC/ PC /NC
1. Training and experience must comply with the Medical Council's policy on length of internship and approved rotations; that is, a minimum of a total of twelve months, which should normally be consecutive, of which at least three months must be spent in Medicine in general and at least three months in Surgery in general.	FC
2. As part of this twelve-month period, an intern may also be employed for not less than two months and not more than four months in the following specialties: Emergency Medicine; General Practice; Obstetrics and Gynaecology; Paediatrics; Psychiatry; Anaesthesia (to include perioperative medicine) and Radiology.	FC
Assessor Comments Mungret Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 1 – Rotations. 1. The visiting assessor team noted that the current intern's GP rotation was for 3 months at Mungret Medical Centre. 2. The intern rotation falls within the General Practice speciality. Recommendations ▪ Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Mungret Medical Centre on Standard 1. Commendations ▪ There are no commendations for this standard.	



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Standard 2: Accreditation

Criteria	FC/ PC /NC
1. The training site must be affiliated with a Medical School and/or a PGTB/network and/ or health system which is accredited by the relevant regulator. The responsible body for organising, coordinating, managing, and assessing the training setting and the training process on the site must be clearly identified.	FC
Assessor Comments Mungret Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 2 – Accreditation. Mungret Medical Centre is associated with University of Limerick and Mid-West Intern Network. Recommendations - Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Mungret Medical Centre on Standard 2. Commendations - There are no commendations for this standard.	

Standard 3: Content of Training

Criteria	FC/ PC /NC
1. Practice – based training involving the intern’s personal participation, at an appropriate level, in the service and responsibilities of patient-care activity, in the training institution.	FC
2. Personal participation at a level (not acting “above grade”) appropriate to an intern’s growing competence (including not being asked to undertake clinical activities above their level of competence)	FC
3. Regular opportunities for the intern to exercise responsibility and clinical decision-making appropriate to their growing competency, skills, knowledge and experience.	FC
4. Regular opportunities to work as an integral part of a team with a variety of disciplinary backgrounds.	FC
5. Regular, pre-arranged/ scheduled formal education and training sessions.	FC
6. Evidence that the content of training and syllabus / curriculum is consistent with the eight domains of good professional practice as adopted by the Medical Council.	FC
7. Does this site provide training delivered in an integrated manner to include theoretical learning and practical training during service delivery?	FC
Assessor Comments: Mungret Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 3 – Content of Training.	



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1. Based on conversations with both the intern and the supervisor, it was clear that personal participation was at the appropriate level, in terms of service and responsibilities of patient-care activity. The intern felt well supported during their rotation at this site. They were welcomed into the practice and given support throughout.
2. The intern at this site advised that during their rotation in the clinical training site, they acted at a grade appropriate to their growing competence.
3. The intern whom the assessor team met was the intern who rotated through the site from July 2023-October 2023. At the beginning of the rotation, the intern shadowed the doctors, nurses, and the front of house staff as part of their induction. The supervisor provided the intern with an online list, which they discussed and agreed together. This list included codes for the doors at the site, codes for repeat prescribing, clinical investigation management, etc. They then progressed, started seeing patients, taking bloods, reading ECGs, as well as taking patient history and examining patients themselves. The intern would then devise a management plan and come up with a diagnosis to discuss with the doctor. By the end of the rotation, the intern was suggesting prescriptions for the patients and inputting these into the case management system for the doctor to review, approve and discuss with the intern.
4. The intern advised that they worked closely with the supervising doctor at the practice but also had frequent interactions with the other doctor at the practice, the practice nurse, GP Registrar, and medical students. The intern also completed on-call duties in the 3-month rotation at University Hospital Limerick.
5. The intern mentioned they attend regular online education and training sessions with protected teaching time provided by University Hospital Limerick via Zoom. Daily informal learning also occurs due to the nature of the supervisory relationship in place for the intern. The practice also closes each Thursday afternoon, and this gave the intern opportunity to study.
6. There was evidence that the content of training and curriculum is consistent with the Eight Domains of Good Professional Practice.
7. The supervisor on-site had case-based discussions with the intern, and the intern received individual teaching from the supervisor.

In relation to point 4 above: the assessor team would like to note there are difficulties for the intern in completing on-call duties when their first intern rotation is in a General Practice setting. The intern has not had time to settle into the hospital before assuming a high degree of responsibility associated with on-call duties.

Recommendations

- Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Mungret Medical Centre on Standard 3.

Commendations

- The team would like to commend Mungret Medical Centre on giving the intern on-site the opportunity to interface with both Medical Students and Registrars, as it gives the intern opportunity to work as an integral part of a team, enhancing the learning opportunities for the intern.
- The team would also like to commend the support the intern received from their supervisor at Mungret Medical Centre whilst undertaking and submitting a case report to the AUDGPI PI Annual



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Scientific Meeting 2024. This gives the intern a great insight into the audit aspect of practice, and the opportunity to showcase their research.

Standard 4: Supervision

Criteria	FC/ PC /NC
1. There must be effective overarching supervision of the intern's training and clinical practice by an identified clinician(s) of appropriately senior level, normally a specialist doctor who is recognised as a specialist by the relevant regulatory authority of the host country.	FC
Assessor Comments: Mungret Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 4 – Supervision. 1. It was felt that the intern at Mungret Medical Centre was adequately supervised, with overarching supervision from the supervisor on-site, as well as day-to-day supervision from other staff members at the practice, such as the nurses and the GP Registrar. Recommendations - Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Mungret Medical Centre on Standard 4. Commendations - There are no commendations for this standard.	

Standard 5: Assessment

Criteria	FC/ PC /NC
1. There must be evidence of regular and constructive feedback and assessment by the supervisor/trainer who has knowledge of the intern's development and performance and can verify their satisfactory progress.	FC
2. The supervisor/trainer must meet any requirements set by the Medical Council regarding the policy and process of final assessment and sign-off.	FC
Assessor Comments: Mungret Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 5 – Assessment. 1. It was felt that the intern at Mungret Medical Centre was adequately assessed, with regular and constructive feedback and assessment from the supervisor. 2. The supervisor was aware of the final sign-off form, and this was completed and submitted to the Mid-West Intern Network at the end of the intern's rotation at Mungret Medical Centre. Recommendations - Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Mungret Medical Centre on Standard 5. Commendations - There are no commendations for this standard.	



Standard 6: Professionalism

Criteria	FC/PC/NC
1. The training environment must emphasise professionalism and the development and maintenance of the relevant knowledge, skills, attitude, and behaviour, including communication skills, integrity, compassion, honesty, adherence to professional codes, respect for patients and their families, colleagues, and self-care.	FC
2. The intern must be aware of, and comply with, the Medical Council's "Guide to Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Medical Practitioners", and the training should support these ethical standards.	FC
Assessor Comments: Mungret Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 6 – Professionalism. 1. The supervisor and intern on-site at Mungret Medical Centre advised that tutorials around Professionalism happened organically, and this was not formalised. As per the booklet provided to the assessor team during their visit, professionalism is addressed in multiple facets in the workplace and with the aid of workplace-based feedback. Practical measures include patient confidentiality and data management. Beyond this, the values of professionalism held by Mungret Medical Centre are clearly communicated in the practice and on their website. 2. The intern was aware of the Medical Council's "Guide to Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Medical Practitioners" and the training supports these ethical standards. Recommendations - Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Mungret Medical Centre on Standard 6. Commendations - There are no commendations for this standard.	

Standard 7: Resources for Interns

Criteria	FC/PC/NC
1. Access to a sufficient number of patients and case mix so as to provide exposure to a broad range of clinical cases appropriate to the rotation.	FC
2. Space and opportunity for private study and access to a library with adequate and up to date books and journals, including on-line access to standard library databases for journal access and literature searches.	FC
3. The number of interns on a site should be appropriate to the resources of that site, including its staffing at all levels while at the same time having due regard for patient care and comfort.	FC



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4. The training site must emphasise the primacy of patient safety, and interns must be encouraged to raise concerns about ethical issues, should they arise, with their mentor, clinical supervisor and/or the hospital authorities. The intern must have access to appropriate advice and counselling should it be required.

FC

Assessor Comments:

Mungret Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 7 – Resources for Interns.

1. The intern advised they had a sufficient case-mix of patients whilst on-site.
2. The intern at Mungret Medical Centre has appropriate space and opportunity for private study.
3. There was one intern on-site at the time of the inspection, and the remaining rotation will also see one intern per rotation. There is an appropriate level of resources for the site to provide safe patient care.
4. The intern was aware of whom to reach out to for any cause for concern, in the first instance it would be their supervisor. The intern advised they would feel comfortable to contact the Associate Program Director at the Intern Network as well.

Recommendations

- Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Mungret Medical Centre on Standard 7.

Commendations

- There are no commendations for this standard.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION AND THE INSPECTION VISIT.

General observations:

Mungret Medical Centre consists of 2 GP principles, one practice nurse, two administrators, one GP Registrar and one GP intern. The practice offers a wide range of general practice services such as chronic care, women's health, men's health, cryosurgery, screening services, etc, to both public and private patients.

Recommendations:

- Based on full compliance with all standards, there are no recommendations.

Commendations:

Standard 3: Content of Training:

- The team would like to commend Mungret Medical Centre on giving the intern on-site the opportunity to interface with both Medical Students and Registrars, as it gives the intern opportunity to work as an integral part of a team.
- The team would also like to commend the support the intern received from their supervisor at Mungret Medical Centre whilst undertaking and submitting a case report to the AUDGPI PI Annual Scientific Meeting 2024. This gives the intern a great insight into the audit aspect of practice, and the opportunity to showcase their research.



DECLARATION

The Clinical Site at Mungret Medical Centre, Castlemungret, Mungret, Limerick, V94 X004 on 19th January 2024 for the purposes of:

- Satisfying the Council that Mungret Medical Centre setting meets acceptable intern training standards. (49 (3)(b)) MPA 2007
- Monitoring adherence to guidelines on medical education and training for interns and standards for training and experience required for the granting of a certificate of experience. (88(3)(e)) MPA 2007

It is recommended that Mungret Medical Centre, Castlemungret, Mungret, Limerick, V94 X004 be approved by the Council as the site:

- Is compliant with the standards for training and experience required for the granting of a certificate of experience to an Intern.
 - Adheres to the relevant Guidelines on Medical Education and Training for Interns
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