



Comhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis
Medical Council



**Report on the Inspection of Tully Family
Practice, Unit 1, Dun Laoghaire Business
Park, Pottery Road, Dun Laoghaire,
Dublin, A96 A6P2.**

10th September 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 – TULLY FAMILY PRACTICE

Date of Inspection: 10th September 2024
Location: Tully Family Practice, Unit 1, Dun Laoghaire Business Park, Pottery Road,
Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, A96 A6P2.

Inspection Team Details

Assessor Team: Mr Graham Knowles (Chair)
Dr Anna Clarke

Executive support: Ms Sarah Jane Bowen – Professional Development Manager (Intern
Programme & Clinical Learning Environments)
Mr Cormac Glynn – Professional Development Executive

Inspection considerations and decision-making process:

The assessor team considered all documentation submitted by Tully Family Practice, the self-evaluation form and the supporting documentation received prior to the visit. Additionally, information and explanations provided by the supervisor, trainer and the intern 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 inspection. 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)



Standard 1: Rotations

Which category of interns did you meet?

Surgery in general

☐

Medicine in general

☐

Emergency

☐

General Practice

☒

Obstetrics &
Gynaecology

☐

Paediatrics

☐

Anaesthesia

☐

Radiology

☐

Psychiatry

☐



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Duration of Rotation: 3 months

Criteria	FC/ PC /NC
1. 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 Tully Family Practice 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 Tully Family Practice. 2. The intern rotation falls within the General Practice speciality. Recommendations - Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Tully Family Practice on Standard 1. Commendations - There are no commendations for this standard.	

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 1. Tully Family Practice was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 2 – Accreditation. The practice is associated with the University College Dublin (UCD) and the Dublin Mid-Leinster Intern Network. Recommendations - Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Tully Family Practice 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:

Tully Family Practice was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 3 – Content of Training.

1. Based on conversations with both the intern and the supervising GP, 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 and appropriately supported from the start of their rotation to their current position. They were welcomed into the practice and given support throughout.
2. The intern at this site advised they act at a grade appropriate to their growing competence, and should they have any questions, they feel comfortable to message one of the GPs on Socrates, or to drop into their room to discuss.
3. The intern advised the assessor team that they feel they are progressing well. The intern advised they received an induction pack on their first day on-site. The assessor team noted it was positive to hear from the GPs on-site that they intend to gather feedback from the intern and adapt the induction programme as necessary. The intern advised they started this rotation by sitting in with staff and being shown how to navigate the practice management system and shadowed the supervising GPs and nursing staff. Each day, patients are booked in to see a GP at the practice and are linked to the intern via the practice management system. This linking of patients to the intern is done by the GPs. The intern then sees these patients, takes a history and examines them and formulates a management treatment plan which is always reviewed and discussed with their supervising GP. Each morning, they take bloods, work on chronic disease management, fit ECGs.
4. The intern on-site advised that they work closely with the supervising GP at the practice, but they also have frequent interactions with the practice nurses. The team noted that the supervising GPs provide care at a near-by nursing home, Ashford House, and the intern advised they now attend at the nursing home independently and all plans and prescriptions are reviewed by a supervising GP. The intern also attends practice meetings, where they have presented research on polypharmacy and geriatric medicine as part of the team. The intern is also undertaking an audit whilst completing their rotation at Tully Family Practice. The GPs on-site advised that they are awaiting the



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construction of a near-by Primary Care Centre, where they will eventually take up residence. Once this Primary Care Centre has been completed, it would be of benefit for the intern to involve them in the opportunities for wider multi-disciplinary team learning including joint training with GP Registrar also attached to practice. By involving the intern, it would provide them with a further opportunity to work as part of a team with a variety of multidisciplinary backgrounds.

5. The intern stated that there are regular education and training sessions with protected teaching time either in-person or online, and they attend the GP sessions provided bi-weekly. Daily informal learning also occurs due to the nature of the supervisory relationship in place for the intern.
6. There was evidence that the content of training and curriculum is consistent with the Eight Domains of Good Professional Practice, and the Three Pillars of Professionalism were specifically referenced by the supervising GPs.
7. The supervising GPs on-site have case-based discussions with the intern, and the teaching is provided in an integrated manner which includes theoretical learning and practical training during service delivery.

Recommendations

- Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Tully Family Practice on Standard 3.

Commendations

- There are no commendations for this standard.

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: Tully Family Practice was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 4 – Supervision. 1. It was felt that the intern at Tully Family Practice is adequately supervised, with overarching supervision from the supervising GP on-site.	
Recommendations ▪ Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Tully Family Practice 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: Tully Family Practice was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 5 – Assessment. 1. It was felt that the intern at Tully Family Practice is adequately assessed, with informal regular and constructive feedback and assessment from the supervisor. The team were made aware through the Self-Evaluation Form and appendices that there is an intern training logbook available to the intern and supervising GPs. This can be used for providing formal feedback and this may be useful to all. 2. Upon speaking with the supervisor at this site, they are aware of the intern assessment report form for sign-off at the end of the rotation. Training for the supervisors on the use of the intern assessment form had been scheduled for the supervisors but had been postponed, with a future date to be rearranged. The supervisors indicated they will attend at this training and the team felt this will be beneficial to both the supervisors and the interns. Recommendations - Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Tully Family Practice 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: Tully Family Practice was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 6 – Professionalism. 1. The supervisor and intern on-site at Tully Family Practice advised that tutorials around Professionalism happen organically, and the supervising GP went on to say they believe the most important aspect of this is to model integrity, treating patients equally and with respect, and this is all part of the hidden curriculum when teaching. There is also a folder on One Drive available to the intern containing detailed information on Professionalism.	



2. The intern is 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 Tully Family Practice on Standard 6.

Commendations

- It was evident to the team that there is a positive culture and ethos in Tully Family Practice. The team wishes to recognise and commend the practice's commitment to teaching Professionalism through observations and positive role modelling of staff.

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
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:

Tully Family Practice was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 7 – Resources for Interns.

1. The intern advised they have a sufficient case-mix of patients, with specific mention of paediatric cases, women's health cases and provision of care at the nursing home. The team encourage the expedition of resolution for interns to shadow/ attend at on-call arrangements through the co-operative. The Programme Manager on-site on the day of the inspection advised this is to be expedited. Since the inspection, the Dublin Mid-Leinster Intern Network have confirmed that incoming interns will attend an out-of-hours co-op.
2. While there is no permanent dedicated room for the intern, the practice has ensured there is an alternating dedicated room for the intern each day.
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 if they had any cause for concern: in the first instance it would be their supervising GP. The team were impressed with how open the practice was, and the intern had no issues with raising concerns. The intern was also aware they could reach out to the Intern Tutor in case of any issues.



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Recommendations

- Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Tully Family Practice on Standard 7.

Commendations

- There are no commendations for this standard.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION AND THE INSPECTION VISIT.

General observations:

Tully Family Practice is a suburban practice, comprising of three doctors; one GP trainee; and two administrative staff members. Within the practice itself, there are four consultation rooms, a large nurse's room, large waiting room with advertising screen for targeted health messages and a reception area. The entire practice is accessible, and the bathroom contains baby changing facilities. The practice provides services such as antenatal care, chronic disease management, and vaccinations.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for Tully Family Practice.

Commendations: Standard 6: Professionalism.

It was evident to the team that there is a positive culture and ethos in Tully Family Practice. The team wishes to recognise and commend the practice's commitment to teaching Professionalism through observations and role modelling of staff.

DECLARATION

The Clinical Site at Tully Family Practice, Unit 1, Dun Laoghaire Business Park, Pottery Road,
Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, A96 A6P2 was inspected on 10th September 2024 for the purposes of:

- **Satisfying the Council that Tully Family Practice 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 Tully Family Practice, Unit 1, Dun Laoghaire Business Park, Pottery Road,

Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, A96 A6P2, be approved by the Council as the site:

- **Is complaint 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**

END.