

In 2004 the UEMS Section of Infectious Diseases approved the Training Curriculum for Infectious Disease Specialists as proposed by the European Board of Infectious Diseases. For further information please refer to the UEMS website at <http://www.uems-id.org/>.

Training Curriculum in Infectious Diseases

1 Community-acquired infection and hospital-acquired infection

Involvement in management (clinical assessment, investigation, diagnosis, treatment and follow up) of patients suffering from unselected infections, preferably predominantly community acquired, and imported infection(s) forms a central theme within the training programme.

Consult experience should be obtained during this period e.g. in other hospital associated infections such as surgical infections, orthopaedic infection, device related infections and infection in immune compromised patients.

At least 2 years should usually be spent in an approved post which meets the above requirements of the curriculum. It must include both inpatient and out patient care. (A maximum of one year of training outside the European Community at a recognised training centre approved prior to the period of training by the specialist national authority will be acceptable).

2 HIV/AIDS

Experience in HIV/AIDS must form part of the training programme and may require rotation to a unit possessing a high component of suitable patients or to a dedicated HIV unit if it cannot be provided in the primary ID training centre.

3 Cross speciality infections including tuberculosis and viral hepatitis

Experience in the management of cross speciality infections such as tuberculosis and viral hepatitis (including B and C) must be part of the training programme.

4 Compromised patients

The training programme must include experience in the management of opportunistic infection(s) in immunocompromised patients such as neutropenic hosts, transplant patients, congenital immune deficiencies as well as those compromised by illness such as diabetes mellitus and infected prosthetic devices.

5 Diseases of travel

The training must include aspects of prevention of travel associated diseases as well as the regular clinical assessment, diagnosis and management of travel related infections. If this training cannot be provided at the primary training centre, the experience must be obtained elsewhere.

6 Intensive care

A period of attachment to or a period providing consults to an Intensive Care Unit to gain experience in the management of these patients must form part of the training programme. A period spent in this environment should provide additional experience in the prevention and treatment of nosocomial infection and sepsis.

7 Medical microbiology

Experience in medical microbiology is essential. It is envisaged that attachment, collaborative research, and/or direct involvement in these disciplines will be necessary

8 Control of infection

Experience in the prevention and control of community and healthcare related infections or

hospital outbreaks e.g. MRSA, SRSV is important.

9 Epidemiology and Public Health Medicine

A period of interface with these disciplines is regarded as desirable and will enable the trainee to become familiar with the principles and practicalities of immunisation and vaccination, investigation and control of notifiable diseases and community outbreaks. A maximum combined period of 3 months in these disciplines would be acceptable.

10 Research

Training to develop a basic understanding and ability in clinical and/or laboratory research methodology is essential. A period of supervised research or further formal postgraduate training is encouraged. No more than 12 months research will usually be acceptable as counting towards the 4-year training period

11 Tropical infectious diseases

For those training in infectious diseases wishing to enhance their training in tropical infectious diseases the following would be valuable:

- A twelve month period in a recognised training centre in the tropics.
- Attendance at a tropical medicine training course at one of the internationally approved centres such as those leading to the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene or equivalent.
- Experience in a parasitological laboratory.

12 Bioterrorism

An understanding of the issues related to the clinical presentation, early recognition, epidemiology and management and control of infections which could potentially be deliberately released into a community for example, smallpox, anthrax, plague, botulism and tularaemia.

13 Sexually transmitted diseases

An understanding of the basic principles of STD as they relate to infectious diseases is desirable.

14 Antimicrobial chemotherapy

A knowledge of the issues relating to optimal use of antimicrobial chemotherapy including an understanding of the pharmacokinetics and principles of prevention, mechanisms of resistance and management of antimicrobial resistance must be obtained during the training.