The Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists
Board of Pain Medicine

Administrative Instructions for the Admission of the First Fellows (FF) of the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists’ Fellowship in Pain Medicine

1. Admission criteria shall comply with the current regulations of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.

2. Application for admission of First Fellows shall begin when the pain medicine fellowship program is approved by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine. The College shall cease to admit First Fellows when the pain medicine fellowship training program begins, within 24 months after the fellowship is approved.

3. The applicant must be a fellow with FHKAM and FHKCA.

4. The applicant is currently a certified Fellow in pain medicine sub-specialty or specialty by overseas College with training programme acceptable to the College, and has been practicing Pain Medicine on a regular basis for at least 2 years within the last 4 years prior to application.

5. If the applicant does not satisfy (4), the applicant must satisfy to the College the following:

   5.1. The applicant has completed the Dip. Pain Mgt. or equivalent qualifications with training programme acceptable to the College.

   5.2. The applicant is practising Pain Medicine for at least 4 years within 8 years prior to application.

   5.3. The applicant is practising Pain Medicine on a “regular basis”. The term “regular basis” is defined as “regular clinical pain session comprising at least 2 sessions a week”, which is about 25% FTE. The total amount of clinical experience will then be 25% x 4 = 1 FTE, and in addition to the 1 FTE of clinical experience during the Dip. Pain Mgt. training will be equal to 2 FTE, that is comparable to that of a Fellow in the new subspecialty.

   5.4. The applicant must satisfy the minimum accumulated clinical exposure during this period:

      5.4.1. Minimum Acute pain cases – 400 new cases. Labour analgesia not included.
      5.4.2. Minimum Chronic non-cancer pain cases - 200 new cases
      5.4.3. Minimum Cancer pain or palliative care cases - 100 new cases
      5.4.4. Minimum number of Interventional procedures - 100 procedures including a
mixture of neuraxial and peripheral nerve blocks, joint injections, neurolysis and imaging-assisted interventions. Trigger point injections and acupuncture treatments are excluded from this list.

The applicant must be able to provide evidence to support these caseloads. The supporting evidence may be submitted in the form of a case logbook or other verifiable document and statistics. *Applicants are advised to observe the requirement of Privacy Ordinance when recording and providing these information.*

5.5. The applicant must show evidence of exposure to training in clinical psychology, communications and counseling. Such training course has to be approved by the Board of Pain Medicine.

5.6. The applicant must show evidence of exposure to Inter/multi-disciplinary pain management sessions – minimum 24 sessions of clinical activities with 2 or more of any of the following specialties;
   5.6.1 Any clinical medical specialties related to pain management
   5.6.2 Clinical Psychology
   5.6.3 Physiotherapy
   5.6.4 Occupational Therapy

   Examples of activities include: combined clinics, case conferences, pain programs, attachments, etc. Sessions for labour or acute pain are not included. Each session is defined as a 3-hour clinical activity.

5.7 The applicant must satisfy CME/CPD requirement - 90 points accredited by HKCA for Pain Medicine over recent 3 years, of which one-third may be CME points accredited for activities of primary specialty.

6. All applicants must go through an Assessment to be arranged by HKCA.

*Endorsed by HKCA Council on 26th November 2011*
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