



VOCATIONAL TRAINING GUIDE: TRAINING IN INTENSIVE CARE

1. TRAINING PROGRAMME IN INTENSIVE CARE

- 1.1. The purpose of HKCA(IC) training programme is to develop intensivists who can perform independently and up to the expectation of Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists with regard to specialist practice in Intensive Care Unit delineated in Policy Document IC-2.
- 1.2. The training of an intensive care specialist to the standard required for the award of the Fellowship of Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists (Intensive Care) requires the completion of six years of structured supervised training, assessment, courses and other requirement outlined in this training guide.
- 1.3. These training guides apply to all trainees who commenced training toward the Fellowship of Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists (Intensive Care) from 1st July 2023. Trainee commencing training prior to that date will be governed by the HKCA Vocational training guide in place at the time of registering with the College.
- 1.4. Vocational training commences from the date that the trainee:
 - 1.4.1. registered as a trainee in the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists, and
 - 1.4.2. occupies a post within the recognized training programme.
 - 1.4.3. Retrospective recognition may be given for other training which complies with the College Administrative Instructions: e.g. internal medicine, surgery, paediatrics, emergency medicine, research etc., but this retrospective recognition will not alter the official date of commencement of Approved Vocational Training.
- 1.5. All trainees will be required to be assessed by their training departments. These assessments will use the criteria and form laid down in Policy Document IC-12, In-training Assessment of Trainees in Intensive Care. The Censor must certify that in-training assessment is satisfactory according to this Policy Document before Fellowship of the College can be awarded.
- 1.6. Basic Vocational Training
 - 1.6.1. The first three years of training shall be basic training in Anaesthesiology and other specialties of acute medicine such as Intensive Care Medicine, Acute Internal Medicine, Paediatrics, Surgery and Emergency Medicine, and other disciplines related to Intensive Care Medicine as approved by the College.
 - 1.6.2. During Basic Vocational Training, a minimum 6 months of Anaesthesia training is required. Anaesthesia training must be undertaken in unit approved by the college for anaesthesiologists. An approved anaesthesia training post is preferable, but not mandatory. Trainees should be informed by their supervisor of training if there is no training post offered during their anaesthesia training period.
 - 1.6.3. All trainees should complete the EASE course within their first three years of training



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- 1.6.4. Trainees have to pass the Intermediate examination of the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists, or equivalent by the end of their Basic Vocational Training before they are eligible for Higher Vocational Training. Before entering to the higher vocational training, trainee must have a satisfactory completion of In Training Assessment during the basic vocational training rotation.
- 1.6.5. Trainees registering for Higher Vocational Training in Intensive Care who have completed partial training in other programs acceptable to the College may, at the discretion of the College, be deemed to have completed Basic Vocational Training. A detailed program for such a trainee must be submitted for approval.
- 1.7. Higher Vocational Training
- 1.7.1. The next three years of training shall be Higher Vocational Training, which shall consist of:
- 1.7.1.1. Two years of uninterrupted training in an accredited Intensive Care Training post At least 6 months of higher training in intensive care must be posted in a unit accredited as Category A centre, and at least 6 months of higher training in intensive care must be posted in a unit accredited as Category B centre, as specified in section 4.1
- 1.7.1.2. Complete the Workplace-Based Assessment (WBA) and satisfy the minimum requirement according to the Guidelines on Workplace-Based Assessment (https://www.hkca.edu.hk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/IC-training-Guidelines_on_WBA.pdf) during higher training of Intensive Care and before Exit Assessment.
- 1.7.1.3. Optional period for twelve months in any combination of internal medicine, emergency medicine, surgery, research, anaesthesia, intensive care, paediatrics, or other disciplines related to intensive care as approved by the Board of Intensive Care Medicine.
- 1.7.1.4. Satisfy the requirement of all mandatory courses as specified in the corresponding document (IC-14)
- 1.8. At least 6 months of accredited training in either Acute Internal Medicine or Paediatrics must be completed during either Basic or Higher Vocational Training.
- 1.9. The total duration of Anaesthesia training, during Basic or Higher Vocational Training, must be a minimum of 12 months. Anaesthesia training must be undertaken in unit approved by the college for anaesthesiologists. An approved anaesthesia training post is preferable, but not mandatory.
- 1.10. An approved Formal Project must be satisfactorily completed in accordance with IC-13, before presenting for the Exit Assessment.
- 1.11. All trainees must attend and pass the Final Fellowship Examination in accordance with IC-7, before presenting for the Exit Assessment.
- 1.12. Holders of a higher qualification in anaesthesia for which there is a basic science examination equivalent to the Hong Kong College Intermediate Examination must produce evidence of training acceptable to the College Council before presenting for the Fellowship Examination.
- 1.13. The duration of vocational training shall be a total of six years to comply with the requirements of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.
- 1.14. All training must be assessed and approved by the Board of Censors.



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2. TRAINING PROGRAMME IN INTENSIVE CARE AS SECOND FELLOWSHIP

2.1. FELLOWS OF HONG KONG COLLEGE OF ANAESTHESIOLOGISTS

Fellows of the FHKCA (Anae) would meet criteria for obtaining the FHKCA(Intensive Care) upon meeting the following requirements:

- 2.1.1. . At least twenty-four months of accredited training in Intensive Care must be completed after the first 3 years of Basic Vocational Training to satisfy the requirements for the Fellowship of the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists (Intensive Care). At least 6 months of higher training in intensive care must be posted in a unit accredited as Category A centre, and at least 6 months of higher training in intensive care must be posted in a unit accredited as Category B centre, as specified in section 4.1. Only Intensive Care training within the Provisional Fellowship Year for the Fellowship of the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists (Anaesthesiology) will be retrospectively approved as Accredited Intensive Care training.
- 2.1.2. At least 6 months of accredited training in either Internal Medicine or Paediatrics must be completed during training.
- 2.1.3. Complete the Workplace-Based Assessment (WBA) and satisfy the minimum requirement according to the Guidelines on Workplace-Based Assessment (https://www.hkca.edu.hk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/IC-training-Guidelines_on_WBA.pdf) during higher training of Intensive Care and before Exit Assessment.
- 2.1.4. All candidates must satisfy the requirement of all mandatory courses as specified in the corresponding document (IC-14), and fulfil the minimal attendance requirement for college tutorial.
- 2.1.5. An approved Formal Project must be satisfactorily completed in accordance with IC-13, before presenting for the Exit Assessment.

2.2. FELLOWS OF HONG KONG COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE

Fellows of the HKCEM would meet criteria for obtaining the FHKCA(Intensive Care) upon meeting the following requirements:

- 2.2.1. Complete three years of Higher Vocational Training, of which two years would have to be in an appropriate ICU training post as defined by the Vocational Training Guide after the completion of the HKCEM Fellowship. At least 6 months of higher training in intensive care must be posted in a unit accredited as Category A centre, and at least 6 months of higher training in intensive care must be posted in a unit accredited as Category B centre, as specified in section 4.1.
- 2.2.2. One year of Anaesthesia training in a unit approved by the college for anaesthesiologists, but could be completed in any acute specialty, provided that the candidate has previously completed at least one year of Anaesthesia training in a unit approved by the college for anaesthesiologists.
- 2.2.3. Retrospective accreditation of training time will be considered by the Board of Intensive Care Medicine on a case-by-case basis.



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- 2.2.4. Complete the Workplace-Based Assessment (WBA) and satisfy the minimum requirement according to the Guidelines on Workplace-Based Assessment (https://www.hkca.edu.hk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/IC-training-Guidelines_on_WBA.pdf) during higher training of Intensive Care and before Exit Assessment.
- 2.2.5. All candidates must satisfy the requirement of all mandatory courses as specified in the corresponding document (IC-14), and fulfil the minimal attendance requirement for college tutorial.
- 2.2.6. An approved Formal Project must be satisfactorily completed in accordance with IC-13, before presenting for the Exit Assessment.

3. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

3.1. Interrupted Training

- 3.1.1. In accordance with section 1.7, Higher Vocational Training consists of two uninterrupted years of training in an accredited Intensive Care Training post.
- 3.1.2. Following an interruption of more than one year but less than three years a minimum of one uninterrupted year is required to complete training.
- 3.1.3. Following an interruption of more than three years a minimum of two uninterrupted years is required to complete training, one of which must be an uninterrupted year in Intensive Care.

Note 1: Interruption refers to periods during which the trainee is not working in a post within the recognized training programme, excluding normal vacation, study and/or maternity leave.

Note 2: Two uninterrupted years refer to the total duration of training in an accredited Intensive Care Training post. Interposed period of training in other posts (e.g. anaesthesia, medicine, emergency medicine) within the recognized training programme is not considered interruption but not counted for the 2 years.

3.2. Part Time Training

- 3.2.1. May be accepted for training in Hong Kong subject to prior approval of the Board of Intensive Care Medicine, and must be accompanied by supporting documentation from the Hospital administration and Director of the Intensive Care.
- 3.2.2. Cannot commence until two years of Basic Vocational Training as delineated under Vocational Training Guide 1.6 has been completed in a full time capacity and the Intermediate Examination has been passed
- 3.2.3. Must be in approved post within the recognized training programme
- 3.2.4. Must have the same content of training and total training time as for full time trainees. Vocational Training must be completed within ten years.
- 3.2.5. Must have a commitment within any block of training which is at least 50% of that of a full time trainee and including pro rata involvement in out of hours work.
- 3.2.6. Must satisfy the requirement of all mandatory courses as specified in the corresponding document (IC-14)
- 3.2.7. Requires registration with the College and payment of the annual training fee each year.



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4. APPROVED POSTS FOR TRAINING

- 4.1. The College Council will approve Intensive Care Units for training in Intensive Care. A limitation may be imposed on the number of posts and/or the duration of training recognised in accordance to Policy Document IC-3. List of Accredited Intensive Care Unit will be posted on college webpage.
 (https://www.hkca.edu.hk/intensive_care/training_centres/)
- 4.2. Posts for Anaesthesia component of Intensive Care training must be in hospitals approved for training by the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists.
- 4.3. Posts in Medicine related to Intensive Care must be in hospitals with training posts approved for training for Acute Internal Medicine by the Hong Kong College of Physicians.
- 4.4. Posts of all other disciplines in the training program must be undertaken as a training post within a hospital accredited by the corresponding college under the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine and approved by the Board of Intensive Care Medicine.
- 4.5. Research programmes must have the prior approval of the Board of Intensive Care Medicine and followed by documentation which authenticates completion of the period for which approval was sought.

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