

## Professional Skills development for ACFs and CLs: Genomics Medicine

During their time in ACF/CL programmes at Imperial, clinical academic trainees are required to undertake some additional courses to develop their academic/research and professional skills. The courses they choose to do will be based on their individual circumstances, and the timing of when they take them can be based around what suits them best, as long as they are taken during the course of the ACF/CL post.

In recognition of the major impact that **Genomics** is expected to have on healthcare research and delivery in the future, and the major drive by NIHR, NHS England and HEE to encourage training in genomic medicine, Imperial has introduced a requirement that all academic trainees (ACFs and ACLs) undertake part or all of the new MSc in Genomic Medicine provided by Imperial College London, regardless of their research area. Specifically this mandatory requirement is for ACFs/CLs to **complete at least 2 modules from the ICL MSc Genomics Medicine programme.**

### Genomics Medicine

The Genomics MSc programme comprises 7 core modules and a further 6 optional/elective modules. The modules are delivered using a blended learning approach, involving face to face teaching and online distance learning. Most modules consist of one week face to face teaching (Mon-Fri, 9-5) and up to 3 weeks of e-learning and independent study.

### Guidance for ACFs/CLs

- All ACFs/CLs are required to complete **at least 2 modules** from the Genomics programme during the course of their 3/4 year clinical academic training programme.
- CATO recommends that all trainees undertake the 'Core Concepts in Human Genetics and Genomics' module plus one other from either the core or optional modules list. All trainees are advised to contact the Genomics course team for an informal discussion before finalising their module choices. ACFs/CLs who already have a good understanding of genomic science may feel that other modules are more suited to their knowledge and opt to take other modules from the core and options list instead – this should be planned in discussion with the Genomics course organisers.
- Trainees interested in taking more than 2 modules and perhaps completing the PG Cert (or even MSc) will be supported to do so, providing that the class and learning time can be accommodated alongside their ACF/CL post commitments.
- Currently HEE is offering funding to support the completion of individual modules. Once a choice has been made about what modules to take, and this has been discussed with the Genomics course team, trainees should apply to HEE for funding, via the 'CPPD' route. Further detail about the application process is available at the link below. Trainees will need to submit 2 applications in parallel – one to HEE for the funding and the other to ICL for booking a place on course modules.

**HEE funding:** <https://www.genomicseducation.hee.nhs.uk/genomicsmsc/cppd-application-guidance>

#### **ICL module application:**

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/study/postgraduate/masters-programmes/msc-pg-dip-and-pg-cert-genomic-medicine/> (SEE 'APPLY NOW' button at bottom of page)

- For forward planning purposes, trainees should note that the modules are offered on a 12 month cycle – i.e., all modules will be available at least once in each 12 month cycle. The 'Core Concepts' module is offered twice each year, in 2016/17 it will run from 10-28 October 2016 and again from 27 February-24 March 2017.
- Most modules will involve 5 days of face to face teaching plus 3 weeks e-learning and independent study which can be done flexibly to work around other commitments. ACFs/CLs should discuss with supervisors and academic leads and plan ahead to either accommodate the 1 week face to face learning as part of their academic time - or take study leave to be able to attend classes.

The MSc in Genomics is organised and delivered by the NHLI at Imperial. For more information please contact the NHLI Education Administrator on 020 7594 7767, email: [genomic@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:genomic@imperial.ac.uk) or visit <http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/nhli/genomic-medicine-msc/>