

Is your GP practice ready to broaden its horizon and take on new challenges in 2010?

Why not get involved in International Primary Care!

A unique opportunity has been created by the RCGP Junior International Committee (JIC) for GP practices and trainees to gain valuable experience in international general practice by participating in the European 'Hippokrates' exchange programme. Read on to find out how easy it is to get involved.

The Junior International Committee (JIC)

- Formed in April 2009, the JIC is a subcommittee of the RCGP International Committee.
- It aims to promote educational activities related to international primary care amongst GP trainees and GPs within 5 yrs of CCT.
- The JIC represents the 'Vasco da Gama Movement' (VdGM) in the UK.
- The aim of the JIC 'Exchange Committee' is to facilitate international 2 week observational placements for GP trainees in the UK and across Europe.
- Currently, the JIC is looking for GP practices to act as 'hosts' for visiting European GP trainees.

The 'Hippokrates' Programme

- The 'Hippokrates' programme was founded under the auspices of EURACT in 2000.
- The programme facilitates 2 week European observational placements for GP trainees and GPs within 5 yrs of CCT.
- Placements are currently self-funded, and undertaken during study leave or annual leave.
- Visiting European trainees are responsible for organising their own accommodation during the placement.
- There is a great demand from European GP trainees to visit UK host practices.

Benefits of taking part in GP International Exchanges:

- Exposure to another medical professional, who may challenge your own ideas, concerns and expectation of British General Practice.
- Promotes the GP practice as an attractive centre for personal and professional development.
- Teaching and learning opportunity for GPs and trainees.
- Opportunity for hosting doctors to reflect on their own practice.
- Build international links to facilitate outgoing exchanges.
- Forms part of CPD, e-portfolios, appraisal and revalidation.

How your practice can get involved:

1. Register with the JIC Exchange Committee as a host practice.
2. Your practice will receive a 'hosting pack', which contains all the information you need, including evaluation forms, code of conduct, outline of placements etc.
3. Your practice will also be put in touch with your local exchange committee contact, who will help to facilitate the placements.
4. The observational placement itself will be 2 weeks, and a suggested programme will be provided.
5. Finally, the JIC will ask you to complete an evaluation form and keep you updated about future visiting trainees.

For further information about hosting or participating in a placement, contact:

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