

School/Specialty Career Lead

What does the role of Career Lead mean?

The General Medical Council state that all trainees should have readily available access to career support¹. Whilst the HEIW Medical Careers team can provide expert input on generic career planning skills, the team requires the support of clinicians to field the more niche questions that trainees may have. A Specialty School Careers Lead acts as an ambassador who can support the provision of specialty specific careers information to individual trainees and also to other faculty.

What are the HEIW Medical Careers Team doing for me?

- Networking with other Local Education Training Board Careers Services, Medical Schools, UK Foundation Programme, national and external bodies, and the sharing of careers information to inform the careers strategy and generic guidance.
- Developing web-based, printed and social media careers information resources for doctors at all levels, including resources focussed on specialties.
- Promoting Specialty Training in Wales at local and national medical careers events.
- Holding one-to-one career planning meetings with trainee doctors who approach us with career issues including choosing or changing specialties.
- Liaising with Postgraduate Centres to support locally initiated careers activity eg: careers fairs, talks, drop-in appointments.
- Liaising with the Undergraduate Careers Advisers in Cardiff and Swansea Medical Schools; collaborating to deliver careers teaching in Year 5 and to support Undergraduate Careers events with a focus on exploring and choosing specialties.
- Carrying out and gathering research into medical careers and workforce trends and sharing findings.

Your role as a School Career Lead:

- Act as a “champion” for your specialty.
- Become familiar with the Wales Careers Strategy and the Roads four stage model as outlined in the Roads to Success four stage framework.²
- Be a first point of contact for the HEIW Careers team within the School for matters relating to careers in their Specialty.

¹ GMC – Promoting Excellence: standards for medical education and training

² The Roads to Success – A practical approach to career management for medical students, junior doctors (and their supervisors) Caroline Elton and Joan Reid

Stage 1 of Career Planning – Self Assessment

Stage 2 of Career Planning – Career Exploration

Stage 3 of Career Planning – Decision Making

Stage 4 of Career Planning – Plan Implementation

- Become familiar with careers information and initiatives led by the HEIW Careers team.
- Support other local faculty who are also involved in helping Foundation Doctors with career choices and specialty research. i.e. Local Faculty Leads, Postgraduate Centre Managers and Foundation Programme Leads.
- Act as a point of contact for Education Supervisors who seek specialty-related information to help inform their ongoing career planning discussions with doctors.
- Provide, where appropriate, expert advice to doctors who have queries about career progression within the specialty, then referring on doctors who may need more tailored pastoral support to the HEIW Medical Careers team.
- Provide people, resources and information about specialties as needed for local careers fairs; engaging participants as required.
- Feed emerging information related to professional development issues within the specialty, Royal Colleges etc to HEIW Medical Careers team to ensure up to date information developments can be noted and shared.
- Act as a link with Local Health Board contacts who may from time to time seek speakers about the Specialty for medical students or local school groups.
- Attend CPD events and updates to maintain and grow knowledge, skills and insight into issues facing the career development of trainee doctors, in line with GMC Trainer Recognition Framework Area 6.
- Co-ordinate production of specialty specific careers resources, in liaison with the HEIW Careers and Communications Teams.

Where to find us:

The HEIW Medical Careers team is based at Ty Dysgu, Cefn Coed Road, Nantgarw

Current Team Members

Miss Rachel Mort

Careers Adviser – Foundation Doctors

Email: HEIW.medicalcareers@wales.nhs.uk

If you or your colleagues are fielding queries from Cardiff and Swansea medical students with regards to application to Medical School the following contacts are available:

Mr Jason Law

Careers Consultant, Cardiff University: LawJ3@cardiff.ac.uk

Mr Simeon Smith

Careers Adviser, Swansea University: S.F.G.Smith@swansea.ac.uk

Twitter: @HEIW_NHS – a source of in the moment careers information for you and your trainees

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