

Paediatric Respiratory Medicine Credentialling Criteria

The specialty of Paediatric Respiratory Medicine requires that the specialist undergoes a period of recognised training programme to ensure that the Paediatric Chest Physician should be well versed in basic sciences of thoracic medicine, and a skilled and competent clinician as well as motivated researcher and trainer. He should be innovative and proactive with the ability to keep abreast with the advancement of respiratory medicine.

Credentialling criteria have been developed to ensure the above objectives are met.

1. Criteria for credentialling of Paediatric Chest Physician

The basic requirements for credentialling are:

1.1 A registered basic medical degree recognized by Malaysian Medical Council (MMC).

1.2 A registered postgraduate qualification in Paediatrics recognised by the Malaysian Specialty Board including:

1.2.1 MMed (Paeds) awarded by University Malaya, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia or Universiti Sains Malaysia.

1.2.2 MRCP (UK)

1.2.3 MRCPCH (UK)

1.2.4 MRCPI (Ireland)

1.2.5 FRACP

1.3 Completion of subspeciality training in Paediatric Respiratory Medicine in recognized centres under the supervision of recognized trainers.

2. Duration of training

Completion of a minimum of three years of respiratory training which fulfill the criteria stipulated below:

2.1 The period of training must be after the candidate has been gazetted as a paediatrician.

2.2 A minimum of two years in clinical paediatric respiratory medicine is required. The third year can be spent overseas in related area of clinical respiratory medicine or research.

3. Evidence of satisfactory respiratory training.

Evidence of satisfactory respiratory training should be supported by:

- 3.1. Logbook documenting clinical cases and procedures.
- 3.2. Satisfactory supervisor's report on overall clinical and procedural competency

4. Training and supervision

The candidate should have been under the direct supervision of an accredited consultant who would have been responsible for monitoring and evaluating his/her progress.

The major portion of the time should have been spent in inpatient and outpatient care of children and adolescents at a recognised hospital(s).

The candidate is expected to have been certified to be:

- proficient in the management of common and important acute and chronic respiratory conditions in the clinic, ward and community settings.
- proficient in the management of respiratory conditions requiring intensive care
- conversant with diagnostic procedures relevant to paediatric respiratory medicine
- conversant with the current literature and research in the field of respiratory medicine and related disciplines of immunology and allergy
- proficient in the performance and interpretation of lung function tests, flexible bronchoscopy, pH studies, sweat testing and skin prick testing.
- skillful in the management of children with complex diseases which impact upon the respiratory system in a multidisciplinary setting. e.g. cardiovascular disease, neuromuscular disease
- sufficiently skilled in paediatric sleep medicine
- skilled in the long term management of chronic respiratory disease ie home oxygen therapy, nasopharyngeal airways, tracheostomy and non-invasive positive pressure ventilation.
- trained in communication skills to ensure effective consultation, counseling, teaching and collaboration with other agencies
- trained in research methodology, journal appraisal, scientific writing and presentation

5. Training abroad

The candidate is encouraged to spend a minimum of six months to one year overseas for exposure to technology, developments in thoracic medicine or investigative procedures which are not available locally. During this tenure, where possible, the candidate is encouraged to participate in the research activity of the department.

6. Research

The candidate should carry out a research project which is of sufficient standard to be presented to a local scientific meeting and should have at least one publication in a local journal

7. Training centres.

Minimum requirements for a training centre:

- 7.1 Has a qualified Paediatric Chest Physician with at least 2 years of practice.
- 7.2 Has both outpatient and inpatient facilities for patient suffering from respiratory illness.
- 7.3 Has laboratory services which include general lab services as well as microbiology and histopathological services
- 7.4 Provides lung function services
- 7.5 Provides rigid and flexible bronchoscopy services
- 7.6 Provides sleep medicine services
- 7.7 Has an intensive care unit
- 7.8 Provides imaging services which include radiological services, ultrasound, CT and MRI scanning.
- 7.9 Has library facilities.
- 7.10 Regular Continuous Medical Education activities including:
 - 7.10.1 Respiratory Journal Read once/week
 - 7.10.2 Radiological case discussion once/ week
 - 7.10.3 Respiratory Grand rounds once/ week
 - 7.10.4 Department journal club once/week
 - 7.10.5 Department Mortality review once/month
 - 7.10.6 Department clinical conference once/week

8. Core procedural skills

Candidates should have been certified by their supervisors to be competent in the following procedures:

- Peak flow monitoring

- Pulmonary function tests
- pH oesophageal monitoring
- nocturnal oximetry reporting
- polysomnography
- flexible bronchoscopy
- non-invasive positive pressure ventilation
- long term oxygen therapy

9. Overseas candidates

Candidates who have already been certified as paediatric chest physicians overseas, should provide evidence of training and certification from the country of origin. They should still fulfill the minimum requirement of our credentialing criteria.

10. Log Book

Training centres are encouraged to use a log book. An example is attached.

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