

RESPONSE TO INTERNAL QUALITY REVIEW (IQR) UCL MEDICAL SCHOOL

DATE OF IQR VISIT: 7 DECEMBER 2015

DATE OF DEPARTMENT'S FIRST RESPONSE:

<i>Recommendation (as it appears in the IQR report)</i>	<i>Action taken or planned in response to the recommendation.</i>	<i>Person responsible</i>	<i>Date</i>
Necessary Action:			
There were no necessary recommendations.			
Advisable Action:			
Students interviewed by the review team reported a wide range of different experiences of Personal Tutors. The review team recognises that a certain amount of variation is inevitable, particularly in view of the fact that personal tutors for the clinical phase are usually staff of the partner NHS Trusts. Nevertheless, the Medical School is encouraged to continue to seek ways of enhancing the consistency of the student experience in respect of personal tutors across the six years of the MBBS.	<p>The UCLMS MBBS teaching committee considered the draft IQR report at its meeting in February 2016. It accepted the advisable actions concerning striving for consistency across personal tutors. Whilst this is difficult given the size of the student body (almost 2,000) and the fact that fewer than 10% of tutors are UCLMS staff and fewer than 50% are even UCL staff, it will remain on the ASER action plan.</p> <p>A new methodology for calculating the MBBS student load, which includes credit for personal tutors, has been developed in collaboration with the 4 SLMS Faculty Managers. The new methodology has the backing of the Vice Provost Health and, if approved by the SLMS Deans, it is anticipated that it will help to increase personal tutor participation rates in the SLMS faculties and divisions. The Deans of FMS and FBS have also undertaken to personally support the Medical School's recruitment initiatives, with some success already achieved in FBS in particular. Recent efforts in recruitment mean that the Medical School is now in the position to offer students the choice of male or female tutors. In addition, the Personal Tutor training materials are being revised by the Divisional Tutor for implementation in the new academic year.</p>	<p>Head of Programme</p>	<p>Awaiting SLMS approval to implement in 2016/17.</p>
		Divisional Tutor	September 2016
The review team was satisfied that electives approval procedures are robust and appropriate. The team was surprised to learn however that during their time abroad the students are expected to make contact with UCL only if they encounter problems. Although the students concerned have by this point completed their finals and are on the point of commencing their careers, the team	An email was sent by the Head of Programme to all the year 6 students, prior to their departure, to encourage them to keep in touch with UCLMS whilst on their elective. The students were asked to make contact during the 3 rd /4 th week of their elective, for welfare purposes, to confirm that everything is fine or to inform us of any concerns. This will be piloted by the first batch of students in March 2016. In addition, the emergency contact details and instructions on the MBBS website have been reviewed and revised.	Electives Head and Administrator	April 2016

own feedback.	Leads inform it of actions they have taken to address issues/concerns, in order to ensure the closure of the quality loop.		
The Medical School's options for growth in student numbers are currently restricted to the postgraduate provision, as student MBBS numbers are capped. The review Panel concurred with the Medical School/Faculty's position that if opportunities for growth became available as a result of a relaxation in the regulation of MBBS student numbers, any growth should take place at a prudent rate to avoid putting the student experience at risk.	The Head of Programme will continue to liaise with the relevant Faculty.	Head of Programme	Ongoing
Despite the high demand for provision of postgraduate qualifications in medical education, the Medical School is encouraged to take a judicious approach to any future growth of PGT and CPD provision, and to be mindful of the risks inherent in partnership with other organisations, notably the need to establish a mitigation plan in the event of withdrawal by partners.	The lead for PG programmes will be mindful of this advice. All growth in PG and CPD numbers for 2016/17 and 2017/8 are 'off site' to ensure the physical faculties are not over-stretched. The Medical School will be making new junior and senior appointments to absorb the additional workload. As funding pipelines and sources for clinical teacher CPD are in a state of flux, the PG team is in early discussions with local NHS trusts to review CPD provision.	PGME Lead	Ongoing
Students interviewed by the review team expressed a desire for teaching staff to make more widespread use of the teaching technologies, such as the TurningPoint electronic voting system, which are available in many of the principal teaching facilities. The review team noted the difficulties arising from the unpredictable nature of venues and facilities, and from having a large proportion of teachers drawn from outside UCL. The Medical School is nevertheless encouraged to seek to ensure that lecturers are suitably trained in the use of such technologies so far as this is practicable.	The use of technology in the MBBS is frustratingly impeded by the poor level of support provided by UCL IT and SLMS IT. The facilities in the main lecture theatre (Cruciform LT1) remain not fit for purpose. The UCLMS MBBS teaching committee is pleased that the IQR team noted this issue and is keen for this issue to be foregrounded in the IQR report. The Head of Programme will continue to liaise with the relevant Faculty. The site sub-dean at the Royal Free has been working with UCLMS to improve the technology in the Peter Samuel Hall and £20,000 has been invested in new projection equipment. As facilities are enhanced, teachers will be made aware of the improvements and will be encouraged to use them.	Head of Programme	Ongoing

Any comments you wish to make on the IQR process:

Name: Deborah Gill

Date: 24/3/16

Position: Director, UCLMS