

Accredited Scientific Practice – Specialty Proposal

| ASP Proposer Details | |
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| Lead proposing organisation | Association of GI Physiology (AGIP) |
| Proposal partner organisation(s) | Newcastle University |
| ASP Specialty Proposal | Please note; details of the proposal will be published on the NSHCS website, this will not include personal and contact details. |
| ASP subject area | Physiological Sciences |
| ASP specialty area | Gastrointestinal Physiology |
| Why is an ASP required? | Please provide a brief description of the issue that is being addressed, benefits to service provision, trainees and patients and a gap analysis of training in this area. |
| | The main benefit for patients is that the HCPs who are undertaking the investigations on them (predominantly invasive) are qualified and safe to practice and have met national standards. The main benefit for the service is that the investigations are being undertaken by someone who is qualified and safe to practice and have met national standards. This also includes calibration of equipment, analysis of results and reporting of results to the highest of standards. |
| | There are two issues. 1. Other HCP (nurses, Drs, physios etc) often extend their roles of practice in to GI Physiology (usually just upper or lower GI) and they either undergo training in the workplace and access the STP specialist courses as CPD (some will undergo formal assessment, but not all), or they do nothing for years and come out of the woodwork. 2, Not all departments do upper and lower GI Physiology, it is common for departments to specialise in just one area. These departments feel discouraged to get an STP trainee as they are training for aspects of a job that they are not going to use in their workplace (this can also make organising rotations very difficult). So what some departments will do is employ people through the backdoor and then sort out training (if any other than inside of their department) in an ad hoc fashion. AGIP want to discourage this by having ASSP as mandatory if individuals apply for independent practitioner status. Although this is not compulsory accreditation programmes such as IQIPS look favourably on accredited practitioners. Also as a professional body we want to have formal training routes, and we actively encourage departments to go down the STP route, however we are aware that for some departments STP doesn't meet their workforce needs. |

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| What is the workforce need? | Please provide an overview of the current and anticipated workforce demand for an ASP in this specialty area. | |
| | <p>AGIP believe that part of the reason there is low numbers in GI for STP is because STP doesn't meet all departments needs. Many specialise in one aspect of GI and others are within other departments such as cardiology ASSP meets this need for specialising in one area. AGIP also intend to only allow accreditation if individuals have undergone ASSP training (if not STP) so we plan to embed ASSP within our training guidelines. GI has always had small numbers and that is in part because departments tend to be in either teaching or specialist hospitals. However when we run the GI specialist courses for STP trainees, other HCP access the courses for CPD and we are always overwhelmed with interest. The demand for this is difficult as we as a professional body do not know how many people are out there doing this role until they contact us. It has been an issue for many years, however we hope that by having an approved training route for this group of people will have a positive influence.</p> | |
| Estimate of potential numbers of ASP trainees | Year 1 (required) | 3 |
| | Year 2 (optional) | 5 |
| | Year 3 (optional) | 7 |
| ASP Academic Providers | | |
| NSHCS accredited HEI providing academic teaching | Newcastle University | |
| Other NSHCS accredited HEI providers also available to provide academic teaching | NA | |
| ASP Professional Body Support | | |
| Professional Body | Association of GI Physiology (AGIP) | |
| Additional Information | | |
| If required, please provide any additional information you feel is relevant. | NA | |