**NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde**

**Medical Staffing Guide to Clinical Attachments**

**What is a Clinical Attachment?**

A Clinical Attachment is a period of time when a medical/dental graduate or doctor/dentist is attached to a Clinical Unit, to gain an overview of medical/dental processes and systems in a hospital setting. It is not applicable to overseas medical students seeking a medical elective and/or experience as part of their medical education.

Clinical Attachments will vary in duration depending upon the reason of the attachment but should be for no longer than 6 months duration.

There are two types of Clinical Attachment:-

* Clinical Observership
* Clinical Access

**What is Clinical Observership?**

Clinical Observerships are primarily used by international medical graduates, who have been practising abroad and are coming to work in the UK for the first time. It provides an opportunity to gain a UK reference and perhaps gain future employment, through acquiring relevant NHS experience.

Observership status can be granted to applicants who **do not** have professional registration and confers responsibility **no greater** than those of a medical or dental student. During the attachment, the graduate is not given any responsibility and is not able to make clinical decisions or give clinical advice. The individual will have no ‘hands on contact’ with the patient and should be supervised at all times by a named consultant.

Clinical attachments should be structured with objectives and learning outcomes agreed at the beginning of the attachment with the named consultant and attachee.

**What is Clinical Access?**

Clinical Access defines the arrangement, whereby suitably qualified doctors/dentists who do not hold an appointment with the Board may be granted access to a hospital department, for the purposes of gaining postgraduate experience or to visit the Board in order to provide and/or gain experience of certain procedures.

The permitted activities and access to facilities are those appropriate to the experience and training as defined and limited by the named consultant responsible for the supervision of the attachment.

Doctors seeking clinical access **must be** appropriately registered with the General Medical Council (GMC) or the General Dental Council (GDC). During the attachment, the doctor/dentist can participate in patient care under the supervision of a named consultant. The responsibility for the doctor/dentist will lie with the named consultant at all times. The doctor/dentist does not have consultant responsibility for the care of patients or the right to admit or treat private patients on the Board premises.

**How do I submit an application?**

Applicants should complete either the Clinical Observership Application Form or Clinical Access form as appropriate and submit directly to their line manager.

Once the line manager has signed of the paperwork it should be sent to the appropriate department as follows:-

**Clinical Observership** - application should be sent to the HR Support & Advice Unit (HRSAU) at [hr.support@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:hr.support@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)

**Clinical Access** - application should be sent to Recruitment Services at [nhsggcrecruitment@nhs.net](mailto:nhsggcrecruitment@nhs.net)

**Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing. Placements cannot commence until the necessary checks have been undertaken and the applicant has been issued with a letter authorising the placement**

**What documentation is required?**

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| **Documentation** | **Clinical Observership** | **Clinical Access** |
| **Application Form** | **Yes** | **Yes** |
| **Copy of CV** | **Yes** | **Yes** |
| **Letter of Registration with appropriate professional body e.g. GMC/GDC Registration** | **N/A** | **Yes** |
| **Copy of photographic Identification i.e. passport or Driver Licence** | **Yes** | **Yes** |
| **OH Clearance** | **No** | **Yes** |
| **PVG Clearance** | **No** | **Yes.**  ***The PVG (or DBS for non-Scottish boards) should be obtained from the HR Dept. of the applicant’s current employer where applicable*** |
| **Certificate of Good Standing** | **No** | **Yes**  ***If the applicant has been living outwith the UK for a period of 1 year in the past 5 years.*** |
| **Confirmation of right to work in the UK** | **No** | **Yes** |