

# Subspecialties

## Certification and training

In the past 12 months, the following numbers of subspecialists have been certified:

Obstetric and Gynaecological Ultrasound (COGU)	0
Gynaecological Oncology (CGO)	2
Maternal Fetal Medicine (CMFM)	5
Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility (CREI)	4
Urogynaecology (CU)	1

Six overseas-trained specialists have been awarded the Diploma:

Gynaecological Oncology (CGO)	4
Maternal Fetal Medicine (CMFM)	1
Urogynaecology (CU)	1

Sixteen Trainees joined the individual subspecialty training programs in 2008:

COGU	3
CGO	2
CMFM	3
CREI	4
CU	4

The numbers of subspecialty Trainees currently in training:

COGU	11
CGO	5 + 3 Diploma + 4 CORT Trainees *
CMFM	13
CREI	19 + 2 CORT Trainees *
CU	8 + 3 CORT Trainees *

\* The Certificate of Recognised Training (CORT) has been introduced for overseas specialists who wish to undergo some subspecialty training in a RANZCOG-approved subspecialty training unit for up to two years and who wish to return to their country of origin with formal recognition of such training.

The numbers of current certified subspecialists:

COGU	36
CGO	48
CMFM	41
CREI	59
CU	28

## Key policy decisions

After much discussion, a new pathway to subspecialty recertification has been approved. Log books are no longer required and commitment to and involvement in the subspecialty must now be demonstrated across a range of key areas, including education and training, research, leadership and governance.

Subspecialists are required to complete:

- 100 of the required 150 CPD points over three years in their subspecialty;
- obtain a minimum of 25 PR&CRM points in the subspecialty;
- complete a checklist and be able to verify, if required, their involvement in at least three of seven different areas.

New pathways for subspecialty recertification after a period of non-certification have also been established.

A major review has been undertaken of the administration, training documentation, handbooks and syllabi of all five subspecialties, with new processes and systems implemented.

In addition, training supervisor handbooks have been developed and distributed to all subspecialty training supervisors.

The current syllabi for each subspecialty have been restructured and aligned to the format of the RANZCOG curriculum that underpins the MRANZCOG/FranzCOG training program. Drafts of the five syllabi in the new curricula format are currently being reviewed by their respective committees.

A new Surgical Skills Assessment tool has been introduced to help ensure the surgical competence of all CGO Trainees. This in-hospital assessment tool is designed to assess competency in 12 core procedures in eight main areas of surgery. Some of the procedures are to be assessed by the end of the first year of training, others by the end of the second year.

Revisions to the format of the In-hospital Clinical Ultrasound Examinations (ICUE) for both CMFM and COGU training programs have been introduced.

The expected standards for the accreditation of a training unit and the documentation required when applying for accreditation and/or reaccreditation have been reviewed and revised. As is the case with the College reaccreditation standards for ITP training hospitals, the comprehensive information required is one of the mechanisms used by the College to help ensure that Trainees receive effective teaching and supervision that supports them and develops the competencies and skills essential for subspecialist practice.

Following discussion at the Council Forum in March 2008, a CMFM-COGU working party is to be convened to undertake a broad review of the two subspecialties, MFM and COGU, as there is some overlap and convergence between the curricula and the scopes of practice of the two groups of subspecialists and as a consequence, training, assessment, service delivery and workforce issues.

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