



DIAGNOSTIC NEUROPATHOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS ST3-6

These assessment and examination requirements, broken down by year of training (ST3 – ST6), are designed for trainees and trainers. The requirements will be assessed through the Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) process, outlined in section 4 of the [Gold Guide](#). The document should be read together with [Diagnostic Neuropathology Guidance ST3-6](#). All trainees should ensure that they have a mid-year or mid placement review (MYR/MPR). The MYR/MPR should ensure that the trainee is on course to complete the curriculum and assessment requirements of the year.

The detailed Curriculum and Assessment system for *Diagnostic Neuropathology* is at Appendix 1 of the [Diagnostic Neuropathology curriculum](#) (see page 27), which defines the programme of training in *Diagnostic Neuropathology*. It is formulated to indicate the [1] knowledge, [2] skills and [3] attitudes/behaviours that the trainee will be expected to achieve (Appendix 1: sections 1-3, pages 27-105), and to show how and at what stage the trainee's level of achievement may be measured against defined criteria (Appendix 1: sections 4 and 5, pages 106-121). In large part, the curriculum is written in a clinical problem-led style and integrates the necessary competences in general pathology, basic systemic pathology, and in clinical neuroscience, with those required of a consultant specialist in Diagnostic Neuropathology.

Further information about workplace-based assessments is available on the [College website](#). Trainees who are part-time etc. can consult the College separately for specific guidance should they require it. See also '[Workplace-based assessment and less than full-time training](#)'.

Assessment and Examination Requirements for ST3

Multi-source feedback (MSF)

A multi-source feedback exercise must be undertaken during ST3. Trainees must self-initiate their MSF assessments on the Learning Environment for Pathology Trainees (LEPT) system. Further information on the process is available at: [Year 3/5 specialty trainees \(Stages B - C/D\)](#).

Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists (FRCPath) examination

Examination regulations and guidelines are available on the [College website](#).

Trainees coming from Histopathology must have passed the FRCPath Part 1 examination by the end of Stage B of training and, thus, prior to entering *Diagnostic Neuropathology* training. Trainees from the *Clinical Neurosciences* would aim to pass the exam during ST3 or ST4 at the latest. Trainees who have not passed the FRCPath Part 1 examination by the end of ST4 may be prevented from progressing to ST5 of training. This may result in an extension to training through the ARCP process.

Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP)

The ARCP is a deanery-led process that should take place towards the end of the trainee's year of training. The outcome of the ARCP determines the trainee's progress through training. Trainees



should ensure that they record all of their training and assessment activities using the LEPT system in preparation for their ARCP.

To enable progression at ARCP, trainees must provide evidence of:

- 6 satisfactory outcomes for each workplace-based assessment tool for the stage of training (with directed workplace-based assessments as detailed in the curriculum)
- A satisfactory outcome in the MSF
- A pass in the FRCPATH Part 1 examination (see above)

Assessment and Examination Requirements for ST4

Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists (FRCPATH) examination

Examination regulations and guidelines are available on the [College website](#).

Trainees from the *Clinical Neurosciences* would aim to pass the exam during ST3 or ST4 at the latest. Trainees who have not passed the FRCPATH Part 1 examination by the end of ST4 may be prevented from progressing to ST5 of training. This may result in an extension to training through the ARCP process.

Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP)

To enable progression at ARCP, trainees must provide evidence of:

- 6 satisfactory outcomes for each workplace-based assessment tool for the stage of training (with directed workplace-based assessments as detailed above).
- A pass of the FRCPATH Part 1 examination if relevant (see above)

Assessment and Examination Requirements for ST5

Multi-source feedback (MSF)

A multi-source feedback exercise must be undertaken during ST5. Trainees must self-initiate their MSF assessments on the Learning Environment for Pathology Trainees (LEPT) system. Further information on the process is available at: [Year 3/5 specialty trainees \(Stages B - C/D\)](#).

Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP)

To enable progression at ARCP trainees must provide evidence of:

- 6 satisfactory outcomes for each workplace-based assessment tool for the stage of training (with directed workplace-based assessments as detailed above)
- A satisfactory outcome in the MSF

Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists (FRCPATH) examination

Examination regulations and guidelines are available on the [College website](#).

It is expected that trainees will normally have passed the FRCPATH Part 2 examination by the end of ST5 or in early ST6. Trainees who have not passed the FRCPATH Part 2 examination by this time will be prevented from progressing to the post-FRCPATH Part 2 stage of training. This may result in an extension to training through the ARCP process.

Assessment and Examination Requirements for ST6

Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists (FRCPATH) examination

Examination regulations and guidelines are available on the [College website](#).

It is expected that trainees will normally have passed the FRCPATH Part 2 examination by the end of ST5 or in early ST6. Trainees who have not passed the FRCPATH Part 2 examination by this time will be prevented from progressing to the post-FRCPATH Part 2 stage of training. This may result in an extension to training through the ARCP process.

Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP)

Trainees satisfactorily completing training should expect to achieve an ARCP outcome 6.

To enable an ARCP outcome 6 trainees must provide evidence of:

- 6 satisfactory outcomes for each workplace-based assessment tool for the stage of training (with directed workplace-based assessments as detailed above)
- FRCPATH Part 2 by examination

Applying for entry to the Specialist Register

Trainees satisfactorily completing their training, as evidenced by the issue of ARCP Form 6, can apply for a [Certificate of Completion Training \(CCT\)](#) or [Certificate of Eligibility for Specialist Registration through the Combined Programme route CESR\(CP\)](#). Trainees must apply for their CCT or CESR(CP) within six months of their completion of training date (i.e. either six months before or six months after). Please see the curriculum for requirements for either the CCT or CESR(CP).