

## **Introducing the RCOG's new O&G curriculum**

Dr Alastair Campbell (Chair, Core Curriculum Committee): On behalf of the RCOG and the Core Curriculum Committee, we are very excited to introduce our new core curriculum for obstetrics and gynaecology. This project has given us a huge opportunity to improve the training we provide for trainees and to prepare them for the role that they're going to undertake as a consultant in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We believe that it's a huge improvement on our current curriculum and builds on the strong foundation which the current curriculum has developed and delivered. There will however be a change in emphasis, and I think this reflects the flexible and adaptable roles that doctors will have to undertake in the health care system we work within.

Marie Morgan Henfrey (RCOG Women's Voices Involvement Panel): My hope for this new curriculum is that it is an interactive curriculum. One in which those who are going through their training feel that they've got an added layer to their training that when they are faced with a patient or an individual that they feel that they can actually cope with speaking to them as an individual and just feel that they're coming out of their training as equipped as they can be.

Dr Adalina Sacco (Chair, NTC): It's been very important for us to be involved in all stages of the curriculum because this is really our curriculum that we work to every day and we know inside out. With the current curriculum that we have, we know the limitations of it, we know which bits we would like to improve, to add or often to take out, and so we really wanted to get this across and to make our new curriculum one which was more useful for us.

Dr Jo Mountfield (Chair, SEAC): I felt passionate that we needed a change to the curriculum, and that's because we have moved on. We've not had a new curriculum for an awful long time, but more than anything else we were getting feedback from both trainees and trainers that actually what we had at the moment wasn't fit for purpose and I really feel that this new curriculum is much more meaningful for the trainees and also for the women that we're going to be looking after.

Mr Rehan Khan (RCOG Assessment Adviser): We are very much hoping that we can think about assessments in a different way. There's something inevitable in the way that historically assessments seem to be a numbers game or even a tick-box exercise. What we're really hoping to do in this iteration of the curriculum is improve quality and not think quite so much about quantity.

Dr Sarah Reynolds (Chair, ATC): I think whenever there's change it's always somewhat disconcerting particularly for those who are most affected by the change, but we can reassure the trainees that the training is not going to change. We're still going to expect pretty much the same things of them. It's just going to be differently packaged and it may well be that they'll find it's much more user-friendly and better for them to do so, I hope they enjoy it.

Dr Fiona Clarke (Chair, ES T&F Group): I think the combination of a new curriculum and a new ePortfolio is a brilliant opportunity for us. I think the new curriculum will give us a lot more chance to sit with our trainees and to discuss their learning in clinical practice. I think the enhanced capabilities of the ePortfolio will mean a lot of the functions of an educational supervisor for the ARCP are a lot more automatic, meaning that we can actually concentrate on the important thing, which is working with our trainees to help develop them through this curriculum.