

ARCP and RITA Data Collection 2014 – Briefing Note 3

This briefing note covers the following:

1. Overview of 2014 reports and project timelines
2. Data Downloads – how to obtain row-by-row data for your deanery/LETB.
3. Outlier responses – how to comment on your outliers to ensure contextual commentary is available to those viewing the reports.
4. The central checks we undertook on the data prior to publishing. This section is primarily for the benefit of data managers.

Overview of 2014 reports and timeline

5. This briefing note is intended for our Deanery / LETB and Medical Royal College and Faculty ARCP contacts
6. We have now released under password, the 2014 ARCP reports to the nominated ARCP contacts. The reports are accessed via GMC Connect.
7. The report has been updated this year to include:
 - Outcome 4 reports
 - Reasons for unsatisfactory outcomes
 - Reporting by specialty band for two run-through specialties: Paediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynaecology.
8. The reports will be demonstrated at the ARCP conference in March when we will also be requesting feedback on the reports provided for consideration in next year's reports.
9. We have provided you with a copy of the updated guidance document (ARCP and RITA reports guidance - February 2015) in the GMC Connect, ARCP 2014 Data Validation Tool folder. We are happy to receive comments on this draft document before it is published with the new report.

Access to ARCP raw data

10. Raw ARCP data is available to organisations for the cases pertaining to that organisation only. For example a LETB would receive data only for trainees within that LETB only.

11. The data is available through the GMC Connect, ARCP Data Download folder. This has been provided to the nominated ARCP contacts from Deaneries/LETBs and Colleges/Faculties.

12. The following colleges have a nominated contact:

- College of Emergency Medicine
- Joint Committee on Surgical Training
- The Royal College of Ophthalmologists
- Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health
- Royal College of Psychiatrists
- Joint Royal College of Physicians Training Board
-

13. If you would like to arrange access for your College or faculty please contact quality@gmc-uk.org so we can arrange a confidentiality agreement to be signed.

14. The ARCP data set contains:

- all ARCP data fields provided by the deanery/LETB
- fields from the Medical Register (also known as the List of Medical Practitioners) listed in Appendix 1.
- all outcomes awarded between 05/08/2009 and 05/08/2014 submitted by Deanery/LETBs over the last five years.

15. These data are provided in order to assist deanery/LETBs to analyse cases affecting outliers.

16. It also supports colleges and faculties to reconcile their own data to ensure they hold a full set of ARCP outcomes for their trainees. This is in line with the Gold Guide which states: "The outcome recommended by the panel (Appendix 5) for all trainees will be made available by the Postgraduate Dean to the: a) Relevant College or Faculty." (para 7.67).

Investigating ARCP Outliers

17. Deaneries and LETBs are asked to investigate the ARCP outliers and to provide us with their comments on why these outliers have occurred. Previously this has been through the April Dean's Report, however this year we will be asking for responses to outliers in the October 2015 Deans' Report. Further information and a template will be provided in the guidance documents for the October 2015 Dean's Report. Comments from Deans will be published.

18. This follows the public release of the ARCP 2014 data as well as the 2015 National Training Survey (NTS) and will give deanery and LETB quality management teams the opportunity to analyse their ARCP outliers alongside any NTS outliers before submitting their response.

19. The ARCP outliers which we ask to be investigated are for those specialties where there are three or more outliers in the same reporting group (based on specialty, PMQ and specialty banding) across the following four outcome types:

19.1. Outcome 2/D

19.2. Outcome 3/E

19.3. Outcome 4

19.4. Unsatisfactory outcomes (excluding exam failure)

20. There are 95 ARCP outliers which fall within this category for investigation in the 2014 data. Of these, 82 are below outliers and 13 are above.

Validation and cleaning of ARCP data

21. Deaneries and LETBs run a series of validation checks on the ARCP outcome data before submitting it to the GMC. In addition, we undertake further central checks following submission to identify any anomalies within the data which the Deaneries and LETBs may not pick up. For example, ARCP records for the same trainee being provided by two LETBs which may result from an Inter-Deanery Transfer.

Duplicated Records

22. It is possible for a trainee to have more than one ARCP outcome per year. For example trainees in Dual Specialty training programmes or trainees who are awarded an ARCP outcome 5 and are required to submit further evidence to the ARCP panel before being awarded their final ARCP outcome. In these cases you would expect the programme specialty and the Outcome type (respectively) to be different.

23. The validation tool identifies duplicates records as those which have the same values for:

- GMC Number
- Review Date
- Period Start Date
- Period End Date
- Programme Specialty
- Level Assessed
- Outcome Type.

24. Records may be flagged as duplicates and still submitted to us. Some deaneries submitted records that were flagged as duplicates to us.

25. We conducted a series of checks and identified 2,491 out of 81,250 (3%) ARCP records as potential duplicate records.

26. Investigations into the duplicate records resulted in 2,101 of the 2,491 records being included in the reports and 390 records being treated as duplicates and excluded.

27. Duplicates were discussed and our approach agreed at the COPMeD Overarching Data Group in January 2015. The table in Appendix 2 describes the different Duplicate Types and how each has been treated in the final data set.

28. Further work will be undertaken to understand and reduce the number of potential duplicates in future, particularly those which are different ARCP outcomes but have been recorded on Deanery / LETB systems with the same values.

Appendix 1 Raw data download of ARCP

29. Please note that the two shaded rows are new to this year's download

| Field name | Source | Description |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| GMCRefNo | Deanery / LETB data collection | |
| ARCP_ID | GMC derived code | |
| LRMP_PMQREGWorldRegion | LRMP | Region in which the Doctor obtained their primary medical qualification, based on the current classification of the country. |
| LRMP_UKOnly_PMQAwardingBody | LRMP | UK Medical School at which the primary medical qualification was obtained. |
| ARCP_DataYear | ARCP derived | The year in which the data were collected. |
| ARCP_SubmittingDeanery | Deanery/LETB data collection | The deanery which submitted the data |
| ARCP_FoundationSchool | Deanery/LETB data collection | The foundation school which submitted the data |
| ARCP_ProgrammeSpecialty | Deanery/LETB data collection | Specialty to which the ARCP/RITA refers |
| ARCP_TrainingLevelAssessed | Deanery/LETB data collection | Level of training at the point of assessment. |
| ARCP_AcademicTrainee | Deanery/LETB data collection | At the time of the ARCP/RITA was the trainee an academic trainee |
| ARCP_MilitaryTrainee | Deanery/LETB data collection | At the time of the ARCP/RITA was the |

| Field name | Source | Description |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| | | trainee a defence DPMD trainee |
| ARCP_LTFT | Deanery/LETB data collection | Trainee less than full-time during any part of the period covered by the ARCP (using Period Start and Period End dates) |
| ARCPOutcome | Deanery/LETB data collection | Outcome awarded at the ARCP |
| ARCP_OutcomeType | Deanery/LETB data collection | Clinical Academic Combined Clinical/Academic |
| ARCP_UnSatOutcome | ARCP derived for reporting purposes from ARCPOutcome | Classified here Outcome awarded at the ARCP |
| ARCP_Outcome4 | ARCP derived for reporting purposes from ARCPOutcome | |
| ARCP_Outcome5 | ARCP derived for reporting purposes from ARCPOutcome | |
| ARCP_OutcomeTarget2AndD | ARCP derived for reporting purposes from ARCPOutcome | |
| ARCP_OutcomeRepeat3AndE | ARCP derived for reporting purposes from ARCPOutcome | |
| ARCP_ExamFailure | ARCP derived from codes U5 Single exam failure U6 Continual exam failure | |
| ARCP_UnSatOutcomeNotExam | ARCP derived for reporting purposes from ARCPOutcome and ARCP_ExamFailure | |
| ARCP_SpecialtyBanding | ARCP derived for reporting purposes from ARCPOutcome | |

| Field name | Source | Description |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| ARCP_BenchMarkGroup | ARCP derived | |
| ARCP_Review_Date | Deanery ARCP data collection | Date of RITA or ARCP Event |
| ARCP_Period_Start_Date | Deanery ARCP data collection | Start of period that the assessment refers to |
| ARCP_Period_End_Date | Deanery ARCP data collection | End of period that the assessment refers to |
| ARCP_RemainOnAcademicProgramme | Deanery ARCP data collection | For academic trainees only |
| ARCP_PostType | Deanery ARCP data collection | FTSTA LAT Foundation Core Specialty |

Appendix 2 Duplicate types and means of resolution – this section is for Deanery Data Managers

| Duplicate type | Description of duplicate type | N records in the 2014 data | Rules for removing and taking records into the final table | Records added to master outcome table – and reported |
|---|---|----------------------------|--|--|
| Exact Duplicates | All fields across the return exactly the same | 498 | Distinct records obtained using a Group By clause. | 336 |
| Duplicates with different outcomes and U-codes (the reasons for unsatisfactory outcomes) Please see The Gold Guide page 113 | All fields across the return the same except the outcome and the U-codes, which differ due to different outcomes. | 1,277 | Different outcomes which appear to have been awarded on the same date are a result of recording issues. The second outcome is recorded against the original panel and date even if awarded on a different day. This issue will be addressed in the 2015 return. | 1,277 |
| Duplicates with different outcomes | All fields across the return the same except the outcome. | 279 | Different outcomes which appear to have been awarded on the same date are a result of recording issues. The second outcome is recorded against the original panel and date even if awarded on a different day. | 278 |

| Duplicate type | Description of duplicate type | N records in the 2014 data | Rules for removing and taking records into the final table | Records added to master outcome table – and reported |
|--|--|----------------------------|--|--|
| | | | This issue will be addressed in the 2015 return. | |
| U-code duplicates | Some cases were returned with one row per U –code. | 96 | To produce one row per ARCP outcome the multiple U-codes were coded into separate columns and the maximum value taken across all rows. | 42 |
| Outcome and N-Code duplicate. N codes are reasons for not having an ARCP. Please see The Gold Guide page 115 | Duplicate cases where one record had an N-code and one had an outcome. Cases have N codes and outcomes and/or stacked N codes | 37 | Only the cases with an outcome were selected. No further processing on the N-codes was undertaken. | 8 |
| Outcome and programme date duplicates | Duplicates with the same information except for slight variation on the programme start and end dates. | 62 | We took the minimum date for programme start date and maximum date for programme end date | 30 |

| Duplicate type | Description of duplicate type | N records in the 2014 data | Rules for removing and taking records into the final table | Records added to master outcome table – and reported |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|--|
| Level duplicates | Duplicates where the same information but different training levels | 80 | Take the minimum level | 40 |
| Cross deanery duplicates | More than one deanery/LETB submit the same outcome | 64 | <p>We took the record where the deanery matched the NTN. For London LETBs we took the first occurrence as allocation by NTN was not possible.</p> <p>We took the minimum date for programme start date and maximum date for programme end date</p> <p>We dropped the approval codes as they are not required for analysis purposes unless the record pertains to a foundation trainee.</p> | 33 |
| Outcome and programme dates | Outcome and programme dates causing duplicates | 12 | Programme dates not used all outcomes taken. | 12 |

| Duplicate type | Description of duplicate type | N records in the 2014 data | Rules for removing and taking records into the final table | Records added to master outcome table – and reported |
|---|--|----------------------------|--|--|
| Records with a N code or an outcome | Duplicates caused by having a N code and an outcome - e.g. outcome 4 recorded on one row and N12 recorded on another row | 8 | Take the record with the outcome. | 5 |
| Duplicate with different training levels, deanery and outcome | Different, levels, deanery and outcome | 4 | We checked the LRMP and took the case with the outcome 6 as the trainee was on the specialist register. | 1 |
| Different N-codes across LETBs | Different N codes and LETBs | 12 | No cases had outcomes so no action required | 0 |
| Cross deanery duplicates with difference outcomes | Cross deanery duplicates with different outcomes and N codes | 8 | We took the records with the outcome recorded against them and ignored those with the N code for the purposes of reporting outcomes. | 2 |
| Duplicates caused by U-codes and post types. | Duplicates caused by one row per U-code and different post types. | 2 | Group by and take Max of U-codes, set post type to correct value to remove conflict | 1 |

| Duplicate type | Description of duplicate type | N records in the 2014 data | Rules for removing and taking records into the final table | Records added to master outcome table – and reported |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|--|
| Duplicates caused by different NTN. | Duplicates caused by difference NTNs and outcomes | 4 | NTN values provided were dropped as we could not chose which one was correct. | 3 |
| Different levels and outcomes | Records had different levels and different outcomes | 30 | Took the minimum level across all records for every record with an outcome. Records with N-codes were ignored. | 15 |
| Different levels and outcomes | Duplicate levels and outcomes | 16 | Took the minimum level | 16 |
| Type not identified by script | Manual reconciliation | 2 | Dropped the approval code | 2 |

Enquiries

Daniel Smith/Shahnaz Begum

quality@gmc-uk.org

Tel: 020 7189 5472/ 5476

Information about this project will be published here: <http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/arcp>
