

NTN Appendix V4 June 2020

Changes from V1

- 1** For ease DRNs are now derived using the same methodology as NTNs. There is no need to change existing DRNs, but please use the new method when assigning new DRNs. This change can be gradual as it is the NTNs for dual and sub-speciality that are our primary focus.
- 2** The NTN suffix now allows for trainees to be awarded a CCT in one specialty and a CESR in their second specialty as we believe this combination can occur.

Changes from V2

- 3** Paragraph 24 suffix for trainees receiving a CCT and CEGPR has been added, together with an additional example in Table 5.

Changes from V3

- 4** Paragraph 25 has been added with details of the suffix required for Locum appointments for specialty training (LAT) NTNs. LATs can be appointed in NHS Education for Scotland, Health Education and Improvement Wales and Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency. The L suffix has been included in Table 4 NTN suffixes and a LAT example included in Table 5.

Background

- 5 This document is referenced in paragraph 3.36 of *The Gold Guide 8th Edition: GG8 – 29 January 2020*. It describes the format of National Training Numbers (NTNs) that is required since the publication of the 7th edition of the Gold Guide.
- 6 This format of NTN ensures that the GMC's requirement of a mechanism to reliably identify trainees in dual-CCT and sub-specialty training programmes raised in *Improving the National Consistency and Approval of Dual CCT Training Programmes GMC Position Statement – May 2015*¹ and *Improving the National Consistency and Approval of Sub-Specialty Training Programmes GMC Position Statement – October 2014*² is met.

The NTN format

- 7 Trainees with a grade of ST~ will be assigned an NTN. Trainees with a grade of CT~ will be assigned a DRN. Trainees with a grade of F~ will not be assigned a training number.
- 8 The NTN will start with a 3 character string indicating the parent organisation. These are listed in Table 1.
- 9 The separator used to divide subcomponents within an NTN will be the '/' symbol.
- 10 The specialty component of an NTN will consist of a concatenation of specialty/sub-specialty codes using the following combinatorial rules:
 - 10.1 Main specialty combinations will be linked using a hyphen. The permitted combinations are given in Table 2. Table 2 gives the preferred order of presentation, but any order is permissible. This is to allow the NTN to be automatically generated by the database.
 - 10.2 The new NTNs will use the NHS Digital Occupation codes³ in all UK nations. Any new specialties, core programmes or sub-specialties must obtain a new code from NHS Digital prior to the start of recruitment. The new code should be used in the recruitment system.

- 10.3** Specialty and sub-specialty combinations will be separated using a full stop as a join character (this is known as the 'dot notation' – a standard notation in computing for parent/child relationships). The order will always be Specialty.Subspecialty. Note that sub-specialty is always linked to the parent specialty.
- 10.4** The specialty component of the NTN will also include "ACA" to identify academic trainees.
- 10.5** Where a trainee is following a sub-specialty only (e.g. post-CCT) only the sub-specialty code will be displayed.
- 11** A trainee's NTN will be automatically reconfigured so that the NTN will correctly reflect the current curriculum combinations followed, based on the start and end dates of component curricula followed by a trainee during the course of their programme.
- 12** The final section will be the trainee's GMC number.
- 13** The suffix of an NTN has changed. Changes are listed in Table 4. Academic trainees will now be identified by "ACA" in the specialty component of the NTN.
- 14** Examples of the new NTNs are given in Table 5.

Deanery Reference Numbers

- 15** 'Deanery Reference Numbers' DRNs will be calculated using a similar method: the current counter will be replaced by a trainee's GMC number. Dual specialty and sub-specialty components are not possible in core training programmes. The format and order of the components of a DRN will change to match the format of the NTNS to allow for easier derivation by training organisations as they can be concatenated in the same way as the NTNs. Furthermore, it reduces the complexity of the validation tools used to return data to the GMC for the NTS and ARCP. DRNs will have a D suffix.

Data management requirements for deans

- 16** Data systems must store the NTN history within each trainee’s programme record to show any changes that occurred during the course of training. This will allow, for example, the tracking of core trainees in Emergency medicine who convert to run through (grade would change from CT~ to ST~ and DRN would change to NTN at the point of conversion, even though the trainee remained on the same curriculum). It will also be possible to see which trainees dropped a specialty from their training programme and followed a single specialty training programme. The history table may also contain changes that are the result of data quality issues.
- 17** Each training programme should have a capacity value set for workforce planning purposes. This replaces the process of NTN stock management.
- 18** Data systems must contain two reference tables:
- 18.1** Permitted dual CCT combinations (Table 2). There is no requirement to present the specialty codes in order.
 - 18.2** Permitted parent and sub-specialty combinations (Table 3).
 - 18.3** Use of these tables will allow validation rules in deanery databases to flag combinations present that are not agreed (i.e. not in the table) so that data can be amended or approval for a new combination sought as required.
- 19** If a new combination is required please refer to form and guidance **Applying for a new dual CCT pairing⁴**.

Details of the change: the new numbers

Table 1 NTN parent organisations

Parent organisation based on ARCP reporting conventions	Value
Defence Postgraduate Medical Deanery	TSD

Parent organisation based on ARCP reporting conventions	Value
Health Education England East Midlands	EMD
Health Education England East of England	EAN
Health Education England Kent, Surrey and Sussex	KSS
Health Education England North Central and East London from 2014	LDN
Health Education England North East	NTH
Health Education England North West London from 2014	LDN
Health Education England South London from 2014	LDN
Health Education England Thames Valley	OXF
Health Education England Wessex	WES
Health Education England West Midlands	WMD
Health Education England Yorkshire and The Humber	YHD
London Deanery 2013 and earlier	LDN
Mersey Deanery part of Health Education England North West from 2013	MER
North Western Deanery part of Health Education England North West from 2013	NWN

Parent organisation based on ARCP reporting conventions	Value
Severn Deanery part of Health Education England South West from 2013	SEV
South West Peninsula Deanery part of Health Education England South West from 2013	PEN
Wales Deanery	WAL
NHS Education for Scotland (East Region)	EOS
NHS Education for Scotland (North Region)	NOS
NHS Education for Scotland (South-East Region)	SES
NHS Education for Scotland (West Region)	WOS
Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency	NIR

20 Table 2 lists the dual CCTs that were approved of October 2017⁵.

21 Occupation codes for whole of the UK are published by NHS Digital⁶.

Table 2 Dual CCT new NTN and trainee numbers

Lead College	Specialty 1	Specialty 2	Indicative length of training in years (inc. core)	Approval date	Current NTN Scotland	Current NTN rest of UK	New NTN all of UK. Note the codes can be arranged in any order.
Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine	Intensive care medicine	Acute internal medicine	8.5	May-15	CC	034	034-035
Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine	Intensive care medicine	Anaesthetics	8.5	May-15	CC	034	034-091
Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine	Intensive care medicine	Emergency medicine	8.5	May-15	CC	034	034-030
Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine	Intensive care medicine	Renal medicine	8.5	May-15	CC	034	034-015
Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine	Intensive care medicine	Respiratory medicine	8.5	May-15	CC	034	034-004

Lead College	Specialty 1	Specialty 2	Indicative length of training in years (inc. core)	Approval date	Current NTN Scotland	Current NTN rest of UK	New NTN all of UK. Note the codes can be arranged in any order.
Joint Royal College of Physicians Training Board	Acute internal medicine	General (internal) medicine	7	May-15	A11	035	035-001
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Allergy	General (internal) medicine	7	May-15	AW	033	033-001
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Cardiology	General (internal) medicine	7-8*	May-15	A2	007	007-001
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics	Allergy	7	May-15	A5	010	010-033

Lead College	Specialty 1	Specialty 2	Indicative length of training in years (inc. core)	Approval date	Current NTN Scotland	Current NTN rest of UK	New NTN all of UK. Note the codes can be arranged in any order.
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics	Dermatology	7	May-15	A5	010	010-005
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics	Endocrinology and diabetes mellitus	8	May-15	A5	010	010-017
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics	Gastro-enterology	9	May-15	A5	010	010-018
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics	General (internal) medicine	7	May-15	A5	010	010-001

Lead College	Specialty 1	Specialty 2	Indicative length of training in years (inc. core)	Approval date	Current NTN Scotland	Current NTN rest of UK	New NTN all of UK. Note the codes can be arranged in any order.
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics	Infectious diseases	8	May-15	A5	010	010-003
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics	Renal medicine	9	May-15	A5	010	010-015
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics	Respiratory medicine	9	May-15	A5	010	010-004
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Endocrinology and diabetes mellitus	General (internal) medicine	7	May-15	A8	017	017-001

Lead College	Specialty 1	Specialty 2	Indicative length of training in years (inc. core)	Approval date	Current NTN Scotland	Current NTN rest of UK	New NTN all of UK. Note the codes can be arranged in any order.
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Gastro-enterology	General (internal) medicine	7	May-15	A9	018	018-001
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Geriatric medicine	General (internal) medicine	7	May-15	AB	011	011-001
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Infectious diseases	General (internal) medicine	7	May-15	A6	003	003-001
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Infectious diseases	Medical microbiology	7**	May-15	A6	003	003-075

Lead College	Specialty 1	Specialty 2	Indicative length of training in years (inc. core)	Approval date	Current NTN Scotland	Current NTN rest of UK	New NTN all of UK. Note the codes can be arranged in any order.
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Infectious diseases	Medical virology	7**	May-15	A6	003	003-078
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Neurology	Clinical neurophysiology	9	May-15	AH	006	006-014
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Neurology	Rehabilitation medicine	8.5	May-15	AH	006	006-084
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Renal medicine	General (internal) medicine	7	May-15	AG	015	015-001

Lead College	Specialty 1	Specialty 2	Indicative length of training in years (inc. core)	Approval date	Current NTN Scotland	Current NTN rest of UK	New NTN all of UK. Note the codes can be arranged in any order.
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Respiratory medicine	General (internal) medicine	7	May-15	AQ	004	004-001
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Rheumatology	General (internal) medicine	7	May-15	AR	008	008-001
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Rheumatology	Rehabilitation medicine	7.5	May-15	AR	008	008-084
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Tropical medicine	General (internal) medicine	8	May-15	A4	032	032-001

Lead College	Specialty 1	Specialty 2	Indicative length of training in years (inc. core)	Approval date	Current NTN Scotland	Current NTN rest of UK	New NTN all of UK. Note the codes can be arranged in any order.
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Tropical medicine	Medical microbiology	8**	May-15	A4	032	032-075
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Tropical medicine	Medical virology	8**	May-15	A4	032	032-078
Royal College of Psychiatrists	Child and adolescent psychiatry	Medical psychotherapy	8	Oct-17	G2	053	053-055
Royal College of Psychiatrists	Forensic psychiatry	Child and adolescent psychiatry	8	May-15	G3	054	054-053
Royal College of Psychiatrists	Forensic psychiatry	Medical psychotherapy	8	May-15	G3	054	054-055

Lead College	Specialty 1	Specialty 2	Indicative length of training in years (inc. core)	Approval date	Current NTN Scotland	Current NTN rest of UK	New NTN all of UK. Note the codes can be arranged in any order.
Royal College of Psychiatrists	General psychiatry	Forensic psychiatry	8	May-15	G1	052	052-054
Royal College of Psychiatrists	General psychiatry	Medical psychotherapy	8	May-15	G1	052	052-055
Royal College of Psychiatrists	General psychiatry	Old age psychiatry	7	May-15	G1	052	052-056
Royal College of Psychiatrists	Psychiatry of learning disability	Child and adolescent psychiatry	8	May-15	G5	051	051-053

22 Table 3 lists the sub-specialties permitted and the NTN format. For dual CCT trainees who are also training in a sub-specialty, the sub-specialty element should appear after the parent specialty, for example a trainee in General psychiatry, Forensic psychiatry and Substance misuse psychiatry sub-specialty would be coded 052.842-054 to reflect that Substance misuse psychiatry is a sub-specialty of General psychiatry.

Table 3 Sub-specialty NTNs – combinations permitted in Approved specialty and sub-specialty training curricula by Royal College⁷

College	Programme Specialty	Sub Specialty	New NTN
Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine	Intensive care medicine	Pre-hospital emergency medicine	034.861
Joint Committee on Surgical Training	Cardio-thoracic surgery	Congenital cardiac surgery	029.862
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Acute internal medicine	Pre-hospital emergency medicine	035.861
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Acute internal medicine	Stroke medicine	035.852
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Cardiology	Stroke medicine	007.852
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics	Stroke medicine	010.852

College	Programme Specialty	Sub Specialty	New NTN
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Gastro-enterology	Hepatology	018.88
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	General (internal) medicine	Metabolic medicine	001.851
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	General (internal) medicine	Stroke medicine	001.852
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Geriatric medicine	Stroke medicine	011.852
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Neurology	Stroke medicine	006.852
Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board	Rehabilitation medicine	Stroke medicine	084.852
Royal College of Anaesthetists	Anaesthetics	Pre-hospital emergency medicine	091.861
Royal College of Emergency Medicine	Emergency medicine	Paediatric emergency medicine	030.86

College	Programme Specialty	Sub Specialty	New NTN
Royal College of Emergency Medicine	Emergency medicine	Pre-hospital emergency medicine	030.861
Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists	Obstetrics and gynaecology	Gynaecological oncology	040.821
Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists	Obstetrics and gynaecology	Maternal and fetal medicine	040.822
Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists	Obstetrics and gynaecology	Reproductive medicine	040.825
Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists	Obstetrics and gynaecology	Urogynaecology	040.824
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Child mental health	002.816
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Community child health	002.801
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Neonatal medicine	002.807

College	Programme Specialty	Sub Specialty	New NTN
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric allergy, immunology and infectious diseases	002.804
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric clinical pharmacology and therapeutics	002.811
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric diabetes and endocrinology	002.802
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric emergency medicine	002.860
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric gastro-enterology, hepatology and nutrition	002.803
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric inherited metabolic medicine	002.814
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric intensive care medicine	002.812

College	Programme Specialty	Sub Specialty	New NTN
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric nephrology	002.805
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric neurodisability	002.813
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric neurology	002.806
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric oncology	002.808
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric palliative medicine	002.815
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric respiratory medicine	002.809
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	Paediatrics	Paediatric rheumatology	002.810
Royal College of Pathologists	Chemical pathology	Metabolic medicine	072.851
Royal College of Pathologists	Histopathology	Cytopathology	074. 830

College	Programme Specialty	Sub Specialty	New NTN
Royal College of Psychiatrists	General psychiatry	Liaison psychiatry	052.840
Royal College of Psychiatrists	General psychiatry	Rehabilitation psychiatry	052.841
Royal College of Psychiatrists	General psychiatry	Substance misuse psychiatry	052.842
Royal College of Psychiatrists	Old age psychiatry	Liaison psychiatry	056.840
Royal College of Radiologists	Clinical radiology	Interventional radiology	080.890

Table 4 NTN suffixes

- 23** The academic suffix is replaced by incorporating “ACA” in the specialty component of the NTN.
- 24** Trainees receiving a CCT and CEGPR will have suffix C/CP in the NTN with the order of C/CP being determined by the order the specialties appear in the specialty component of the NTN; if the first specialty is a CCT and the second a CESR then C/CP will be at the end of the NTN.
- 25** Locum appointments for specialty training (LAT) will have the suffix /L in their NTN.

Letter	Trainee Type
C	Trainee will receive a CCT on satisfactory completion of training
CP	Trainee will receive CESR(CP)/CEGPR(CP) on completion of training. See - https://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/24631.asp
L	Denotes LAT - applicable in NHS Education for Scotland, Health Education and Improvement Wales and Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency
D	Denotes DRN

Table 5 Examples of the new NTNs

Type	Parent Organisation	Specialty Combination	Trainee GMC number	Derived NTN
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NTN	Health Education England Wessex	Gastroenterology	1234567	WES/018/1234567/C
NTN	Health Education Thames Valley	Gastroenterology and General (internal) medicine)	2345678	OXF/018-001/2345678/C
NTN	Health Education England North Central and East London	Gastroenterology with hepatology and general (internal) medicine	9876543	LDN/018.880-001/9876543/C
NTN	Wales	Gastroenterology with hepatology and General (internal) medicine (Academic)	7766554	WAL/018.880-001-ACA/7766554/C
NTN	MOD	Hepatology (post cct)	3344556	TSD/880/3344556/C
NTN	Health Education England Kent, Surrey and Sussex	Nuclear medicine (CCT) and Clinical radiology (CESR)	9459082	KSS/016-080/9459082/C/CP
NTN	Northern Ireland	Cardiology	9876543	NIR/007/9876543/L
DRN	London	Core Medical Training	9012345	LDN/CMT/7495168/D

Contact for queries

26 For all queries please email Quality@gmc-uk.org with NTN Appendix in the subject line.

27 Any requests to amend this document should be submitted to the COPMeD Overarching Data Group via Quality@gmc-uk.org.

References

- ¹ <https://www.gmc-uk.org/education/standards-guidance-and-curricula/position-statements/improving-the-national-consistency-and-approval-of-dual-ctt-training-programmes>
- ² <https://www.gmc-uk.org/education/standards-guidance-and-curricula/position-statements/improving-the-national-consistency-and-approval-of-sub-specialty-training-programmes>
- ³ <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/areas-of-interest/workforce/nhs-occupation-codes>
- ⁴ <https://www.gmc-uk.org/education/how-we-quality-assure/royal-colleges-and-faculties/dual-certificate-of-completion-of-training-ctts>
- ⁵ https://www.gmc-uk.org/GMC_list_of_approved_Dual_CCT_pairings_October_2017.pdf_72297006.pdf
- ⁶ <https://digital.nhs.uk/NHS-Occupation-Codes>
- ⁷ http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/approved_curricula_systems.asp