

Diagnostic neuropathology

This guidance is to help doctors who are applying for entry onto the Specialist Register with a CESR in Diagnostic neuropathology. You will also need to read the [diagnostic neuropathology curriculum](#).

Can I get advice before I submit my application?

You can [contact us](#) and ask to speak to the Specialist applications team for advice before you apply. You are strongly advised to contact the Royal College of Pathologists ([RCPath](#)) for guidance **before** you submit an application or a reapplication.

What is the indicative period of training for a Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) in diagnostic neuropathology?

A CESR application is assessed against the competencies required for a CCT in diagnostic neuropathology. The indicative period of training for a CCT in diagnostic neuropathology is six years, which includes across-the-board* competences in basic histopathology, knowledge-based competences in clinical neuroscience, and across-the-board competences in general autopsy practice. It is very unlikely that the competencies required for a CCT will be acquired in a shorter period of time.

If trainees are coming from ST2 in histopathology the training requirement for training in diagnostic neuropathology is one year of whole time equivalent training in clinical neuroscience and three years of whole time equivalent training in diagnostic neuropathology. If the trainees are coming from ST3 in neurosurgery or neurology then the training requirement for training in diagnostic neuropathology is one year of whole time equivalent training in histopathology and three years of whole time equivalent training in diagnostic neuropathology.

* knowledge-based, skill-based *and* attitude/behaviour-based competences.

Submitting your evidence

Do not submit original documents.

All your copies, other than qualifications you're getting authenticated **must** be accompanied by a proforma signed by the person who is attesting to the validity and accuracy of your evidence (your verifier). It's very important that you read an explanation of how to do this in our [important notice about evidence](#).

You will also need to submit translations of any documents that are not in English. Please ensure the translations you submit meet our [translation requirements](#).

How much evidence to submit

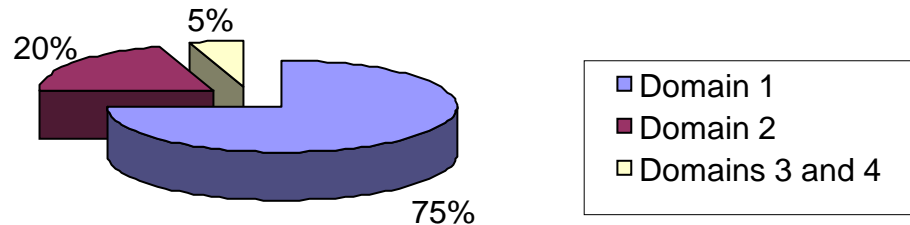
This guidance on documents to supply is not exhaustive and you may have alternative evidence. We recognise that you may not have all the evidence listed here and you may wish to delay submitting an application until you are able to gather it.

Your evidence **must** cover the knowledge, skills and qualifications to demonstrate the required competencies in all areas of the diagnostic neuropathology curriculum

documentation. If evidence is missing from one area of the curriculum for example, then the application may fail.

If you have a piece of evidence that is relevant to more than one domain, do not include multiple copies in your bundle. Instead, include one copy and detail it in your evidence list in the relevant areas, stating that the document is located elsewhere. (For example: "document included in teaching and training section".)

Evidence breakdown



It will help us to deal with your application more quickly if you make sure that you send us only evidence that is directly relevant.

Our guidance on compiling your evidence will help you to decide what is relevant and what is not. We recommend that you read it carefully.

Evidence that is more than five years old will be given less weight than more recent evidence, so you may not need to include it. As a general guide, we would usually expect to see between 800 and 1000 pages of evidence.

Types of evidence are divided into four different domains. We recommend that you apportion the evidence you provide with your application as shown in the pie chart.

Domain 1: 75%

Domain 2: 20%

Domains 3 and 4: 5%

It is important to note that you will not be able to compensate for shortfalls in your evidence of training and experience in a particular area of the curriculum by providing extra evidence in other areas.

Unsuccessful applications or poor evidence

It is possible that applications from doctors in the specialty of diagnostic neuropathology will have inadequate or poor evidence in the following areas:

- Evidence of the necessary knowledge in the specialty which is usual demonstrated by the Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists (FRCPath) by examination or can alternatively be demonstrated via the European Fellowship in Neuropathology by examination
- Appropriately anonymised neuropathology autopsy reports and appropriate range of cases, including both adult and paediatric neuropathology cases
- Appropriately anonymised neurosurgical pathology reports, skeletal muscle biopsy reports, peripheral nerve biopsy reports and cerebrospinal fluid cytopathology
- Appropriately anonymised *intra-operative* neurosurgical biopsy reports
- Appropriate audits
- An understanding of confidentiality and data protection issues, which is commonly indicated by a failure to conceal patient identifiable data

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We strongly recommend that you closely match your experiences against the current curriculum and provide evidence of equivalence across all areas. We also strongly recommended that all your referees should be fully conversant with the current curriculum and able to provide detailed support for your competence across all or most areas.

Anonymising your evidence

It is important that you anonymise your evidence before you submit it to us. You must remove:

- All patient identifying details
- Details of patients' relatives
- Details of colleagues that you have assessed, written a reference for, or who have been involved in a complaint you have submitted.

This includes:

- Names (first and last)
- Addresses
- Contact details such as phone numbers or email addresses
- NHS numbers
- Other individual patient numbers
- GMC numbers

The following details don't need to be anonymised:

- Gender
- Date of birth

It is your responsibility to make sure that your evidence has been anonymised. Evidence which has not been anonymised will be returned to you. More information can be found on our [website](#).

Domain 1 - Knowledge, skills and performance

Qualifications

Primary medical qualification (PMQ)	<p>If you hold full registration with us, you do not need to submit your PMQ as we saw it when we assessed your application for registration.</p> <p>If you do not hold registration, you will need to have your primary medical qualification independently verified by ECFMG before we can grant you full registration with a licence to practise.</p> <p>You can find out more about primary source verification on our website.</p> <p>You only need to get your primary medical qualification verified by ECFMG. The rest of your evidence should be verified in line with our guidance.</p>
Specialist medical qualification(s)	<p>Please provide an authenticated copy of any specialist medical qualifications you hold.</p> <p>Evidence of success in the Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists (FRCPath) by examination or in the European Fellowship in Neuropathology</p> <p>Applicants in possession of FRCPath do not need to provide the original or authenticated certificate. This will be checked directly by the Royal College of Pathologists.</p> <p>If evidence of another specialist qualification is being provided, it must be supported by authenticated certificates and the curriculum/syllabi or standards for its award. Applicants without such evidence will need to submit very robust and clear alternative evidence that they have been assessed to an appropriate level in their specialty to demonstrate equivalence.</p> <p>There is no qualification that enables automatic entry to the Specialist Register in any specialty. An evaluation is made based on an applicant's whole career and therefore two applicants with the same qualifications but different training and/or experience may not receive the same decision.</p> <p>Please list unsuccessful attempts at examinations (where you have not subsequently been successful) in the application form.</p>

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Curriculum or syllabus (if undertaken outside the UK)

Contemporaneous evidence for time spent in supervised, accredited training, including:

- a copy of the curriculum/training programme/syllabi followed (Applicants who have undertaken recognised specialist or specialty training in the UK do not need to provide the relevant RCPATH curriculum. This will be checked directly by the Royal College of Pathologists).
- training log book(s)/portfolio(s)
- evidence of satisfactory completion of training

It should demonstrate appropriate standards of knowledge, skills and attitudes as defined in the diagnostic neuropathology curriculum in:

- neurosurgical biopsy practice, both adult and paediatric, including intra-operative diagnostic work
- skeletal muscle biopsy practice, both adult and paediatric
- peripheral nerve biopsy practice
- cerebrospinal fluid cytopathology
- neuropathological autopsy practice, both adult and paediatric (including details of medico-legal autopsies and attendance at inquests or equivalent)
- immunohistochemistry and its application to diagnostic neuropathology
- electron microscopy and its application to diagnostic neuropathology
- molecular pathology, including basic knowledge in molecular methods, and its application to diagnostic neuropathology

Applicants should demonstrate good use of information technology with relevance to diagnostic neuropathology, in terms of practice, teaching/training and continuing professional development.

Full Curriculum Vitae (CV) using Royal College of Pathologists' template detailing:

- qualifications obtained by examination or continuous assessment (where relevant);
- number of cases/case mix in all aspects of training including cytopathology and autopsy.

If a formal curriculum or syllabus (including assessment methods) is not available please provide a letter from the awarding body outlining the content of the training programme or examination.

For qualifications we will look to evaluate:

- Where the curriculum covers areas of the CCT curriculum
- The complexity of the work undertaken
- How examinations are evaluated or quality assured (external assessment).

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Specialist registration outside the UK	Please provide an authenticated copy of details of the registration requirements of that authority.
Honours and prizes	<p>Please provide copies of certificates or letters showing what the prize or honour was for, including the selection and eligibility criteria and pool of eligible individuals.</p> <p>Where you have not provided evidence of success in an examination that is a requirement of the CCT curriculum, evidence in this area may contribute to your demonstration of equivalent knowledge.</p>
Other relevant qualifications and certificates	<p>Please provide copies of certificates.</p> <p>For example: degrees or diplomas in relevant areas such as management, business, IT, communication, education or law.</p>

Assessments and appraisals

Appraisals and assessments	<p>Applicants should submit evidence from the last five years of diagnostic neuropathology practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• record of periodic assessment undertaken during training;• revalidation /appraisal portfolio. <p>For non training posts you should provide evidence of ongoing evaluation of your performance.</p> <p>This may take the format of formal appraisals by the department head or line manager (clinical director, medical director, professor).</p> <p>In the UK, a revalidation or appraisal portfolio would be appropriate (if it is completed retrospectively less weight will be given to the information provided).</p> <p>Alternative evidence may include letters (written at the time) commenting on your performance. In addition where no formal appraisal or assessment forms are available you must provide information on the method of career review or progression There are many different forms of assessment which form part of the various CCT curricula. Many of these tools are available for those not in training to use. For further information doctors should contact the Training and Educational Standards Department the College on training@rcpath.org</p>
RITAs, ARCPs and training assessments	<p>Formal records of assessment have been in place in the UK since 1996 (for posts of Registrar, Specialist Registrar, and Specialty Registrar). If you have undertaken training in the UK in these grades you should provide a copy of your formal records. In addition if you held any of these approved training posts (except locum posts), please provide evidence of your training number.</p> <p>Applicants should submit records of periodic assessment undertaken during training (if you have undertaken recognised specialist or specialty training in the UK you must provide a copy of all Records of In-Training Assessment [RITAs] or Annual Reviews of Competence Progression [ARCPs] undertaken. These will also be checked directly by the Royal College of Pathologists). If that training was recognised by relevant authorities outside the UK please provide evidence and recognition standards.</p> <p>If areas for development were highlighted please provide evidence to demonstrate that you have subsequently addressed them There are many different forms of assessment which form part of the CCT curriculum. Many of these tools are available for those not in training to use.</p>

360° and multi-source feedback	<p>You may wish to supply evidence of feedback from colleagues of all levels (peers, nursing, auxiliary staff, patients, management) completed at the time and may be in the format of letters, references for posts applied for etc.</p> <p>Applicants if possible should submit evidence from the last five years of diagnostic neuropathology practice for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • multi-source feedback or external or peer-review reports
Awards and discretionary points letters	You must provide copies of certificates and letters.
Personal development plans (PDP)	<p>For details of what to include please see NHS appraisal information</p> <p>You must also provide evidence of review of your PDP at appraisal. PDPs normally form part of your annual appraisal system and you should submit them with appraisal documentation.</p>

Logbooks, records of daily clinical practice and portfolios

The evidence you supply here **must** demonstrate that you have achieved **all** the requirements and competencies as set down in the CCT curriculum for your specialty.

Where you have, for a substantial period of time, worked in a specialised area, you should submit evidence that at one stage in your career you achieved the requirements and competencies of the curriculum for your specialty and that have maintained these skills. You will also need to provide evidence that your current specialised practice allows you to meet all of the requirements of [Good Medical Practice](#).

Logbooks	<p>Please provide contemporaneous evidence for time spent in supervised, accredited training, including training log book(s) and/or portfolio(s).</p> <p>Photocopies of operating lists and theatre record books are not satisfactory evidence of procedures. If you did not complete a logbook during training and at the time you undertook the examinations (e.g. autopsy, neurosurgical biopsy reports etc), you should create a logbook from the information you have. It should contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• type of examination (e.g. autopsy, pathological examination of brain removed at autopsy, intra-operative diagnosis of neurosurgical biopsy, skeletal muscle biopsy etc)• only cases that you were personally involved in• age and gender• date of the examination• full name of the examination• your role in the procedure (assisted, performed personally, performed under direct supervision of someone more senior, supervised a junior)• any critical incidents• name of the hospital or clinic where examination was performed• outcomes data. <p>It is important that these cover the full range of the curriculum demonstrating the breadth and depth of the specialty. This may mean that you have to go back further than five years.</p> <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p> <p>All patient names (first and last), contact details (including full address) and any patient ID numbers (such as NHS numbers or hospital numbers) must be removed from your evidence before you submit it to us.</p>
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<p>Consolidation, cumulative data sheets, summary lists and annual caseload statistics</p>	<p>Applicants will need to submit evidence of departmental statistics in relation to the workload and turnaround time to account for the appropriate standards of knowledge, skills and attitudes as outlined in the diagnostic neuropathology curriculum.</p> <p>You should provide a summary of the total numbers for the various examinations listed in the logbook. This should be completed annually for at least four years (three years of which must be in diagnostic neuropathology) and include your role in the examinations.</p> <p>It is important that the logbooks cover the full range of the curriculum demonstrating the breadth and depth of the specialty. This may mean that you have to go back further than five years.</p> <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>
<p>Medical reports</p>	<p>You should provide examples across the breadth of your practice following the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges and NHS agreed format:</p> <p>Standards for the clinical structure and content of patient records</p> <p>Applicants will need to meet the appropriate standards of knowledge, skills and attitudes as defined in the diagnostic neuropathology curriculum in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • neurosurgical biopsy practice, both adult and paediatric, including intra-operative diagnostic work • skeletal muscle biopsy practice, both adult and paediatric • peripheral nerve biopsy practice • cerebrospinal fluid cytopathology • neuropathological autopsy practice , both adult and paediatric (including details of medico-legal autopsies and attendance at inquests or equivalent) <p>The diagnostic neuropathology curriculum outlines the specialist training requirements for the award of the CCT in diagnostic neuropathology. All new specialists are expected to have undertaken training in the basic knowledge and skills of histopathology and to acquired knowledge of clinical neuroscience, including clinical neurology and neurosurgery.</p> <p>The evidence required to meet the standards are:</p> <p>Minimum practical experience:-</p> <p>Applicants will need to submit evidence of departmental statistics in relation to the workload and turnaround time to account for the minimum practical experience as outlined above and provide five to 10 examples each of anonymised histopathology, diagnostic cytopathology and autopsy reports (indicative of and exemplifying the range of material dealt with) issued to the applicant in the six months prior to application.</p>

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	All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.
Case histories	<p>Applicants are expected to have covered the training outlined in the diagnostic neuropathology curriculum covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • neurosurgical biopsy practice, both adult and paediatric, including intra-operative diagnostic work • skeletal muscle biopsy practice, both adult and paediatric • peripheral nerve biopsy practice • cerebrospinal fluid cytopathology • neuropathological autopsy practice , both adult and paediatric (including details of medico-legal autopsies and attendance at inquests or equivalent) <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>
Referral letters discussing patient handling	<p>Applicants should provide evidence of the following letters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • letters produced by applicants; requesting a second opinion • communications with clinical colleagues advising them or answering particular questions regarding a report issued • letters of appreciation from colleagues regarding involvement in managing a patient. <p>Please provide a variety of copies of letters to cover all aspects of your work and to demonstrate the breadth of your practice. This may include examples of letters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • requesting a second opinion • advising clinical colleagues or answering particular questions regarding patient management • from clinical colleagues regarding applicants involvement in patient management. <p>You can use these to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your involvement or role in cases • the types and complexity of cases you are involved in • your relationship with your colleagues in other disciplines • your handling of patient paperwork • your recognition of the limits of your professional competence • your respect and protection of confidential information. <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>

Patient lists	<p>You may wish to include copies of patient lists. You can use these to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your involvement or role in cases • the types and complexity of cases you are involved in • your participation in teaching and training (where you are supervising a junior colleague) • the volume of cases you undertake • triangulation with rota, timetable and job plan information • triangulation with logbook information. <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>
Departmental (or trust) workload statistics and annual caseload statistics	<p>Applicants should provide departmental statistics in relation to the workload turnaround time within their specialty</p> <p>You can use these to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the size of the hospital in which you work • the volume of work undertaken within your trust and the percentage that you undertake • the range of work that you undertake and that is undertaken within your trust • triangulation with logbook information
Rotas, timetables and job plans	<p>Please provide a full Curriculum Vitae (CV) using Royal College of Pathologists' template detailing training and experience posts including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • full dates • Description of duties • Number of case(s) mix
Courses relevant to curriculum	<p>Applicants may provide evidence of participation within the last five years in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local, national and international courses, conferences and meetings attended (supported by certificates of attendance for the five most relevant courses, conferences and meetings within specialty and/or practice) • familiarity with information technology (IT) (supported by evidence of certificates of attendance for relevant courses).

Portfolios (electronic or revalidation)	<p>Applicants who are registered trainees may provide evidence of an online training portfolio. The College has an online training portfolio (login required) to allow registered trainees to record their progress at: http://www.rcpath.org/index.asp?PageID=62</p> <p><u>After August 2007 registered trainees use the</u> Learning Environment for Pathology Trainees (LEPT) is a web-based system for workplace-based assessment and multi-source feedback (MSF), which also includes an e-Portfolio to support the ARCP process for trainees who started after August 2007 at: https://lept.rcpath.org/login.</p> <p>Trainees that are not registered can access the workplace based assessments from the College website at: http://www.rcpath.org/assessment or by contacting the Training and Educational Standards Department at the College on training@rcpath.org</p>
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Details of posts and duties (including both training and experience posts)

Employment letters and contracts of employment	The information in these letters and contracts must match your CV. They will confirm the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• dates you were in post• post title, grade, training• type of employment: permanent, fixed term, or part time (including percentage of whole time equivalent)
Job descriptions	These must match the information in your CV. They will confirm the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• your position within the structure of your department• your post title• your clinical and non clinical commitment• your involvement in teaching or training.
Job plans	Where you have undertaken a number of roles, provide details for each post or role. You can use these documents to demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the main duties and responsibilities of the post• your out of hours responsibilities, including rota commitments• that you have covered for colleagues' periods of leave• any professional supervision and management of junior medical staff that you have undertaken• your responsibilities for carrying out teaching, examination and accreditation duties• your contribution to postgraduate and continuing medical education activity, locally and nationally• any responsibilities you had that relate to a special interest• requirements to participate in medical audit and in continuing medical education• your involvement in research• your managerial, including budgetary, responsibilities where appropriate• your participation in administration and management duties.

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Research, publications and presentations

Research papers, grants, patent designs	<p>Applicants can provide evidence of participation in the last five years in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• research relevant to current practice, if undertaken, (supported by a summary or abstract of the research if unpublished or, if published, the first page of the relevant published paper)• publications (supported by a copy of the first page of all published papers)• complete and ongoing internal (e.g. hospital) and external audit activities undertaken together with conclusion and effect on practice, (supported by evidence of any published audit). <p>Where you have not provided evidence of success in an examination that is a requirement of the CCT curriculum, evidence in this area may contribute to your demonstration of equivalent knowledge.</p>
Publications within specialty field	<p>Applicants can provide evidence of participation in the last five years in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• publications (supported by a copy of the first page of all published papers)• complete and ongoing internal (e.g. hospital) and external audit activities undertaken together with conclusion and effect on practice, (supported by evidence of any published audit) <p>More weight is given where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the applicant is first author• the publication has a high impact factor. <p>You must not change the listing of the authors (the order in which the authors are listed) in papers where there is more than one author.</p> <p>Colleges may undertake web searches to check the information you provide.</p> <p>You can use these documents to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the types and complexity of cases you are involved in• triangulation with logbook information• working with colleagues (where publications are joint or multi disciplinary)• Continuing Professional Development (CPD). <p>Where you have not provided evidence of success in an examination that is a requirement of the CCT curriculum, evidence in this area may contribute to your demonstration of equivalent knowledge:</p>

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Presentations, poster presentations	<p>Applicants may provide the following as evidence from the last five years of diagnostic neuropathology practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • job descriptions • multi-source feedback or external or peer-review reports • a portfolio documenting evidence of life- long learning or CPD or CME • revalidation/appraisal portfolio • local, national and international courses, conferences and meetings attended (supported by certificates of attendance for the five most relevant courses, conferences and meetings within specialty and/or practice).
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CPD and CME

<p>CPD record certificates, certificates of attendance, workshops and at local, national and international meetings or conferences</p>	<p>Applicants may provide the following as evidence from the last five years of diagnostic neuropathology practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • job descriptions; • multi-source feedback or external or peer-review reports • a portfolio documenting evidence of life- long learning or CPD or CME • revalidation/appraisal portfolio • local, national and international courses, conferences and meetings attended (supported by certificates of attendance for the five most relevant courses, conferences and meetings within specialty and/or practice). <p>See RCPATH guidelines at www.rcpath.org.</p>
<p>CPD registration points from UK Medical Royal College (or equivalent body overseas)</p>	<p>Please provide evidence of registration within a formal system. Royal Colleges or Faculties may confirm attainment of their requirements.</p> <p>See RCPATH guidelines at www.rcpath.org.</p>

Membership of professional bodies and organisations	<p>List the following for your current membership of professional bodies and organisations. Provide documentary evidence showing membership information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• organisation name• date of joining• status of membership (member, associate etc)• how membership is achieved (evaluation, examination, is membership restricted or open to all?) <p>Where membership has been attained through an evaluation or examination and you have not provided evidence of success in an examination that is a requirement of the CCT curriculum, evidence in this area may contribute to your demonstration of equivalent knowledge.</p> <p>See RCPATH guidelines at www.rcpath.org.</p>
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Teaching and training

Teaching timetables	<p>Applicants must provide evidence of the following with full CV detailing the last five years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• in appropriate posts, e.g. member of university staff, educational or research supervisor (supported by letter confirming role e.g. from Dean's office or academic head of department or equivalent). <p>Where you have undertaken a number of roles provide details for each post or role, indicate the level of the teaching. Where teaching is not formal (timetabled) indicate how you participate in teaching.</p> <p>Where you have not provided evidence of success in an examination that is a requirement of the CCT curriculum, evidence in this area may contribute to your demonstration of equivalent knowledge.</p>
Lectures	<p>Applicants must provide evidence of the following with full CV detailing the last five years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• of involvement in postgraduate diagnostic neuropathology and other medical specialty teaching and lecturing (supported by letter from clinical director or postgraduate tutor or postgraduate dean or equivalent)• of research (see Good Clinical Care for examples of evidence required) <p>Please include evidence showing the audience and topics covered, such as posters advertising event, educational timetable from trust education centre, letter from education centre indicating your involvement in specialty trainee formal education programme.</p> <p>You can use these documents to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the types and complexity of cases you are involved in• triangulation with logbook information• continuing professional development• teaching and training• communication skills. <p>Where you have not provided evidence of success in an examination that is a requirement of the CCT curriculum, evidence in this area may contribute to your demonstration of equivalent knowledge.</p>

Feedback or evaluation forms from those taught	<p>Please provide copies of feedback from teaching events you have participated in.</p> <p>You can use these documents to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the types and complexity of cases you are involved in • triangulation with logbook information • continuing professional development • teaching and training • leadership • relationships with colleagues • communication skills. <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>
Letters from colleagues	<p>You can use copies of letters from colleagues to demonstrate similar information to feedback forms (see above).</p> <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>
Attendance at teaching or appraisal courses	<p>Applicants must provide evidence of the following with full CV detailing the last five years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attendance at relevant teaching courses (supported by certificates of attendance) • talks, presentations or teaching sessions given (supported by most recent evidence of meeting timetables and/or teaching programmes, authenticated by head of department or clinical tutor or postgraduate tutor or equivalent) <p>Please provide documentary evidence that you attended the courses and information on the content of the course including whether they were generic or aimed at medical professionals.</p>

Participation in assessment or appraisal and appointments processes

Applicants may provide evidence of the following with full CV detailing the last five years:

- of involvement in conducting appraisal of others (supported by letter of confirmation from Chief Executive or Medical Director or others).

You may provide the following types of evidence to support this area:

- copies of invitations to appraisals or assessments including attendance at appraisal/assessment courses
- evidence of participation in the Deanery ARCP or RITA processes
- evidence of participation in appointments for trainees (including invitations to participate and interview panel information, including attendance at interview and appointment related courses).

You can use these documents to demonstrate:

- contribution to postgraduate and continuing medical education activity, locally and nationally
- any responsibilities which relate to a special interest
- participation in administration, management duties
- participation in teaching and training
- communication, partnership and teamwork
- relationships with colleagues (including giving feedback)
- leadership.

Domain 2 – Safety and quality

Participation in audit, service improvement

Audits undertaken by applicant	<p>Applicants must provide evidence of complete and ongoing internal (e.g. hospital) and external audit activities relevant to specialty and undertaken together with conclusion and affect on practice, (supported by evidence of any published audit).</p> <p>You should provide evidence of the five stages of the audit process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Definition of criteria and standards2. Data collection3. Assessment of performance against criteria and standards4. Identification of changes (alterations to practice)5. Re-evaluation <p>Evidence you could supply includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• audit reports (collections of data alone are not considered as a full clinical audit)• publications• presentations of audit work (see above for details required for presentations)• letter from audit or clinical governance lead confirming participation in audit or governance activities• guidelines produced to reflect lessons learned within audit• notes from self-reflective diaries. <p>You can use these documents to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the types and complexity of cases you are involved in• triangulation with logbook information continuing professional development• communication, partnership and teamwork• relationships with colleagues, patients• leadership• multi disciplinary working.
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<p>Reflective diaries</p>	<p>You can use this document to demonstrate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • triangulation with logbooks • relationships with colleagues • your recognition of the limits of your professional competence • handling of critical incidents or complaints • how you have changed your practice in the light of experiences (part of audit). <p>As this evidence is self produced for its content to be given weight it must be supported or triangulated by other evidence.</p>
<p>Service improvement and clinical governance meetings</p>	<p>Applicants should provide evidence of attendance at local or national external quality assurance (EQA) scheme (supported by evidence of participation in quality assurance, e.g. letter).</p> <p>This area could be demonstrated in a number of ways including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • invitations to attend meetings • minutes or agendas of meetings demonstrating your attendance and participation in the meeting. <p>You can use these documents to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communication, partnership and teamwork • relationships with colleagues • leadership • multi disciplinary working • participation in audit or clinical governance. <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>

Safety

Health and safety	<p>Applicants should refer to the diagnostic neuropathology curriculum and provide the following evidence from the last five years of diagnostic neuropathology practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• certificate of good standing• disciplinary procedures or adverse outcomes• health statement/declaration• a portfolio documenting evidence of life-long learning or CPD or CME• revalidation/appraisal portfolio• letters of appreciation
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Domain 3 – Communication, partnership and teamwork

Communication

Colleagues	<p>Applicants should provide evidence in the last five years of diagnostic neuropathology practice of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• multi-source feedback (including pathology and non-pathology colleagues) or external or peer-review reports• a portfolio documenting evidence of life-long learning or CPD or CME• revalidation/appraisal portfolio• letters produced by applicants requesting a second opinion• letters of appreciation from colleagues regarding involvement in patient management• communications with clinical colleagues advising them or answering particular questions regarding a report issued. <p>This can be demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• letters from colleagues (examples of shared cases or “To whom it may concern letters” or testimonials)• letters of correspondence between you and your colleagues, demonstrating collaboration over management of patient care across multidisciplinary teams• management – including organising staff rotas• presentations• copies of appraisals or references written for colleagues (these must be anonymised with relation to colleague data).
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Patients	<p>Applicants should provide evidence in the last five years of diagnostic neuropathology practice of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• attendance at inquests or equivalent• consultation with relatives of deceased patients following autopsies• handling complaints from patients or patients' families• letters of appreciation from patients or patients' families• multi-source feedback (including feedback from patients) or external or peer-review reports• participation in the last five years in fine needle aspiration clinics where applicable• revalidation/appraisal portfolio. <p>This area could be demonstrated in a number of ways including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• thank you letters and cards from patients• letters from colleagues (examples of cases shared or "To whom it may concern letters" / testimonials)• complaints and responses to complaints.• This may include complaints received against your department or a colleague where you have been involved in the resolution. This is to demonstrate how you handle complaints. Having a complaint made against you will not adversely influence your application. You must anonymise colleague information from this evidence.• 360° feedback. <p>You can use these documents to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• communication• relationships with patients• honesty and integrity• protecting patient confidentiality. <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>
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Partnership and teamwork

Working in multidisciplinary teams	<p>Applicants should provide evidence of participation in the last year in multidisciplinary or clinicopathological meetings/MDTs, service improvement meetings (supported by evidence of attendance lists, minutes of meetings, action points directly involving the applicant), departmental or directorate meetings (see Good Clinical Care for examples of evidence required).</p> <p>This area could be demonstrated in a number of ways including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• invitations to attend meetings• minutes of meetings demonstrating your attendance and participation in the meeting• job plans which indicate this as a duty• appraisals which include this information. <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>
Management and leadership experience	<p>Applicants must provide evidence in the last five years of management activities, e.g. developing, delivering and managing a high quality service, including staff management (supported by evidence from clinical director/medical director or equivalent).</p> <p>This area could be demonstrated in a number of ways including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• invitations to attend meetings• minutes of meetings demonstrating your attendance and participation in the meeting• job plans which indicate this as a duty• appraisals which include this information. <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>

Chairing meetings and leading projects	<p>Applicants should provide evidence in the last five years of meetings attended, chaired or organised by applicant (supported by letter of confirmation, copies of relevant page from minutes confirming role).</p> <p>This area could be demonstrated in a number of ways including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• invitations to attend meetings• minutes of meetings demonstrating your attendance and participation in the meeting• job plans which indicate this as a duty• appraisals which include this information• project reports• letters from colleagues• publications or presentations. <p>Where you have not provided evidence of success in an examination that is a requirement of the CCT curriculum, evidence in this area may contribute to your demonstration of equivalent knowledge.</p> <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>
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Domain 4 – Maintaining trust

Acting with honesty and integrity

Honesty and integrity	Applicants should refer to the diagnostic neuropathology curriculum (appendix 1) and , from the last four years of training/practice in diagnostic neuropathology, provide evidence for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• good professional standing• disciplinary procedures or adverse outcomes;• health statement/declaration• a portfolio documenting evidence of life-long learning or CPD or CME;• revalidation/appraisal portfolio• letters of appreciation.
Equality and human rights (including disability, human rights, race, religion and ethnicity awareness and equal opportunities)	Applicants should refer to the diagnostic neuropathology curriculum (appendix 1) and can provide evidence from the last five years of diagnostic neuropathology practice: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• evidence of attendance at relevant courses (please provide details of course content)• feedback from patients and colleagues• statements from your referees• testimonials.
Data protection	You can demonstrate this with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• attendance at relevant courses (please provide details of course content)• feedback from patients and colleagues• your application and evidence being appropriately anonymised.

Relationships with patients

Testimonials and letters from colleagues	<p>Applicants should refer to the diagnostic neuropathology curriculum (appendix 1) and can provide evidence from the last five years of diagnostic neuropathology practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• letters of appreciation from colleagues• supporting letters from colleagues• letters of referral seeking second opinion. <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>
Thank you letters, cards from colleagues and patients	<p>Applicants should refer to the diagnostic neuropathology curriculum (appendix 1) and can provide evidence from the last five years of diagnostic neuropathology practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• letters or appreciation from colleagues and patients. <p>Please ensure that these are anonymised (for individual patient data).</p>
Complaints and responses to complaints	<p>This is to demonstrate how you handle complaints. Having a complaint made against you will not adversely influence your application.</p> <p>Applicants should refer to the diagnostic neuropathology curriculum (appendix 1).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• certificate of good standing• disciplinary procedures or adverse outcomes• health statement/declaration• a portfolio documenting evidence of life-long learning or CPD or CME• revalidation/appraisal portfolio. <p>You may include complaints received against the department within which you worked or one against a colleague where you have been involved in the resolution.</p> <p>You may provide a reflective diary of how you would handle a hypothetical complaint.</p> <p>All evidence in this area must be anonymised for individual patient data.</p>