

Annual Quality Assurance Summary

This summary provides an overview of how an organisation is meeting our standards for medical education and training as detailed in [Promoting excellence: standards for medical education and training](#). It provides an overview of the QA activities undertaken over the course of a year and an overview of findings including any areas of notable practice or requirements and recommendations we have set. The summary is published.

Organisation	St. Andrews School of Medicine
Review period	November 2022 – November 2023 (Year 3 of cycle)

Overview of findings

Overall findings statement
<p>From the SAQ submission, we consider that St. Andrews School of Medicine is meeting the standards set out in the GMC's <i>Promoting excellence: standards for medical education and training</i>.</p> <p>The QA activities that we have carried out in this annual cycle have provided good opportunities to observe how St. Andrews School of Medicine meets our standards in themes 3 (Supporting learners, and theme 4 (Supporting educators).</p>

Quality Activity undertaken

	Activity	Date	Summary
1	SAQ submission	11 November 2022	The SAQ was submitted on time and covered all five themes of <i>Promoting excellence</i> . The submission included a list of planned St. Andrews School of

			<p>Medicine activities that we could observe for quality assurance purposes.</p> <p>We are satisfied that where further information and/or clarification is still required that this can be provided in the next SAQ submission.</p>
2	SAQ feedback meeting	13 February 2023	<p>This meeting was held to provide feedback to St. Andrews School of Medicine on its 2022/23 SAQ submission, and to seek clarification and additional information on the submission where required.</p> <p>We also discussed potential QA activities we could undertake in this annual cycle. These activities were not selected because of risks identified from the SAQ submission.</p> <p>We did not identify areas of risk during the SAQ meeting.</p> <p>Following this meeting, St. Andrews School of Medicine was provided with written feedback on the SAQ submission.</p>
3	Experience Medicine Summer Programme	31 August and 1 st September	<p>This activity was listed on the SAQ by St. Andrews School of Medicine against Theme 3: Supporting learners.</p> <p>We observed day four and the morning of day five of the Experience Medicine programme. The programme was very well organised and the team at NHS Fife were incredibly welcoming and supportive.</p> <p>Overall, the Experience Medicine summer school is strong evidence for one way in which the school make sure that recruitment, selection and appointment of learners and educators are open, fair and transparent (R2.20). It is very positive to see that the medical education team at the school and NHS Fife are clearly dedicated to ensuring the programmes success and are pleased with the enthusiasm and inclusivity within the team.</p>
4	Medical Education Update Evening	31 August 2023	<p>This activity was listed on the SAQ by St. Andrews School of Medicine against Theme 4: Supporting educators.</p> <p>We observed a well organised event that ran smoothly and to time. The evening began with a light dinner and</p>

			<p>networking session for educators prior to the start of the sessions. This allowed for educators to informally talk and catch up with colleagues from the school and health boards.</p> <p>Overall, we are satisfied that the Medical Education Update Evening is an excellent demonstration of information sharing, and a way for educators to network. It is evidence of one way the school supports educators to liaise with each other to make sure they have a consistent approach to education and training, both locally and across specialties and professions (R4.5).</p>
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Quality Reporting System (QRS)

We use the QRS to monitor concerns raised by organisation when they identify that our standards are not being met in a training environment. Concerns are managed locally by the responsible organisation until resolution.

Activity	Date	Summary
Quality Reporting System (QRS)	Ongoing	<p>St. Andrews School of Medicine have two open items on the QRS.</p> <p>St. Andrews School of Medicine is engaged with the QRS system and continue to provide frequent and detailed updates. We are assured that our thresholds for reporting via the QRS are embedded and adhered to.</p>

Next steps

The GMC's responses to the information submitted in the SAQ gives feedback on each theme to help St. Andrews School of Medicine complete the updates to the questionnaire in the next annual cycle. These include:

Theme one:

- LEC1-03; The school have changed its absence policy in line with the changing circumstances surrounding COVID. In their answer the school has also mentioned that they are developing a detailed year three staff guide, which we would be interested in an update on in the next SAQ.

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- LEC1-04; It is good to hear that there are plans to resume to in person ward simulations for the third year of the programme. The proposal for the new IPE session in the first year sounds like a good development, and we would like an update on this in the next SAQ.

Theme two:

- EGL2-08; It is good to hear of the appointment of a permanent panel chair, and the continued review of regulations. We would like an update on this in the next SAQ, particularly detailing any impact the appointment has had and any key findings from the review.

Theme five:

- DCA1-03; The school have continued with their public health and inclusive curriculum reviews, and we thank them for the update on this. It would be useful to get another update on the progress of this review in the next SAQ.

Organisation's response

The organisation has the right to reply to the AQAS; if they have responded it will be included below.

Organisation's response