Subspecialty Training Requirements in Forensic Psychiatry

2011
VERSION 1.0

These training requirements apply to those who begin training on or after July 1st, 2011.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All candidates must be certified in Psychiatry in order to be eligible to write the Royal College certification examination in Forensic Psychiatry.

MINIMUM TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Twelve (12) months of approved residency training commencing after successful completion of specialty training in Psychiatry. The year will be divided into 13 four-week blocks and must include:

1. Six (6) to nine (9) blocks of core training composed of clinical exposure to ensure competence in criminal matters related to Forensic Psychiatry (including assessment for criminal responsibility, fitness to stand trial, risk assessment) in various settings, from an assessment and treatment point of view as well as the longitudinal care of patients being found unfit to stand trial or not criminally responsible on account of a mental disorder.

2. Four (4) to seven (7) blocks of selective training that includes at least two content areas drawn from:
   - Child & Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry
   - Civil psychiatry (compensation, disability, capacity, liability and malpractice issues)
   - Correctional psychiatry
   - Sexual behaviours
   - Risk assessment (such as dangerous and long-term offender evaluations)
   - Forensic research

Mandatory and selective training may be undertaken as discrete rotations or incorporated as a longitudinal experience (e.g. six blocks could be done full-time for six blocks or 50% for 12 blocks).

For residents interested in training at other centres, the selectives may contain six blocks of approved residency relevant to the objectives of Forensic Psychiatry, at an approved health care facility or university.
NOTES:

1. The total length of training:

No part of this training may be double counted as part of core Psychiatry residency.

2. “Approved” means approval by the trainee’s Forensic Psychiatry program director and acceptable to the Royal College.

Royal College certification in Forensic Psychiatry requires all of the following:

1. Certification in Psychiatry;

2. Successful completion of a 1-year Royal College accredited program in Forensic Psychiatry; and

3. Successful completion of the certification examination in Forensic Psychiatry.

The 1-year program outlined above is to be regarded as the minimum training requirement. Additional training may be required by the program director to ensure that clinical competence has been achieved.

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