



SMPCEETS Open Day - 2021

<https://www.smpcets.scot.nhs.uk>

Stephen Gandy
MRI Clinical Scientist
NHS Tayside



Meeting Etiquette

- Camera on (if possible), microphone on mute when you are not speaking
- Questions - at end of each presentation
- Questions? Digitally raise your hand or type in the chat facility
- Towards the end of the session we will review all questions from the chat



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Getting to Know You Questions

Purpose of the Event

From Your Perspective

- To learn about MP & CE careers at NHS Scotland
- To learn more about how the SMPCETS works
- Hear from current staff and trainees about their experiences

From Our Perspective

- The employment needs of MP & CE within NHS Scotland
- To attract the highest quality applications for the 6-7 positions on offer

Open-Day - Online in 2022

- Due to ongoing covid-19 situation
- We expect the scheme to operate largely as planned throughout 2022

End of this Introduction

- What do you think a medical physicist or clinical engineer does?

**Scottish Medical Physics and Clinical Engineering Training Scheme (SMPCETS)
Open Day – Thursday 27 January 2022**

		Speaker
08:30	Teams open	
09:00	Introduction to SMPCETS	Stephen Gandy (Dundee)
A “day in the life” sessions		
09:20	MP: Nuclear Medicine	Fergus McKiddie (Aberdeen)
09:35	CE: Rehab Engineering	Graham Henderson (SMART)
09:50	MP: MRI	Jenny Summersgill
10:05	Short break	
10:15	MP: Diagnostic Radiology / Radiation Protection	Mark Worrall (Dundee)
10:30	MP: Radiotherapy	Ronan Valentine / Laura Grocutt (Glasgow)
10:45	CE: MEM, D&D, CM	Peter Cook (Inverness)
11:00	Short break	
Trainee Talks		
11:10	Experience as a FY MP trainee	Katherine McLellan
11:35	Experience as a FY CE trainee	Abi Attwell
11:50	Experience as a SY MP trainee	Amy Oana
12:05	Short break	
Parallel Breakout Sessions – Q&A with trainees		
12:15	Group 1	
12:15	Group 2	
12:15	Group 3	
12:15	Group 4	
12:45	Feedback from breakout sessions, final questions and closing remarks	Steve Gandy (Dundee)
13:00	Close	

SMPCETS - Overview

Medical Physics		Clinical Engineering			
Year 1	Full time MSc (Glasgow or Aberdeen)		Year 1	Full time MSc (Strathclyde University)	
Year 2	Four 11 week rotations: Radiotherapy, Radiation Protection, Imaging with Non-ionising Radiation and Imaging with Ionising Radiation	Attachement unique to centre	Year 2	Four 11 week rotations: Clinical Measurement & ICT, Design & Development, Rehabilitation Engineering & Device Risk Management and Governance	Attachement unique to centre
	Mid-way Portfolio and QA Viva			Mid-way Portfolio and QA Viva	
Years 3 - 3.5	Specialism: 1.5 years to include a 3-6 month innovation project		Years 3 - 3.5	Specialism: 1.5 years to include a 3-6 month innovation project	
	AHCS Equivalence portfolio and viva			AHCS Equivalence portfolio and viva	
	HCPC Registration			HCPC Registration	

- Fixed term, supernumerary contracts – MSc fees and band 6 salary
- No guarantee of employment afterwards, although many trainees are taken on
- 27 days annual leave, may be expected to work late on occasion
- SMPCETS = STP equivalent

Medical Physics or Clinical Engineering?

- Are you interested in MP or CE, or both? Two separate applications
- Supporting statement – tell us clearly which you are applying for
- Think very carefully about supporting statements if you wish to apply for both MP and CE. An attempt to just ‘hedge your bets’ by applying for both generically is unlikely to result in success.
- If you have a CE background but wish to apply for MP (or vice versa), then this is permitted – important to make the circumstances clear.
- SMPCETS provides training in each of the major fields of MP & CE – if you are solely focused on one specific area, then consider applying directly for a job in that area.
- Posts – 5xMP, 1-2xCE. Last year – 176 applicants in total, roughly 2/3 for MP and 1/3 for CE. Do not be too despondent if you don’t make it first time – some of our trainees are appointed after 2-3 attempts.

Levels of Previous Experience

- Applicants – usually from three generalised backgrounds (not exclusive)
- (i) Those just finished BSc or MSc studies in an area related to Physics or Engineering. Probably with the least experience.
- (ii) Those with completed PhD's and/or some fixed term work.
- (iii) Those already in the NHS (e.g. technicians) who wish to become a clinical scientist in MP or CE. Potentially with the most experience.
- SMPCETS welcomes qualifying applications – we are a 'training scheme' and do not expect a trainee to know everything before they commence. But...
- ...you should demonstrate that you know what you are applying for, why you are applying for it, and why you are the correct person for a post.
- Applications are considered fairly. All centres are involved in the short-listing process, applications evaluated without bias.
- Overseas applicants – please ensure that you are eligible to work in the UK, e.g. correct visa status, have qualifications approved via ERIC, etc.

Application – Supporting Statement

- “What to put into the Supporting Statement”? Not going to answer that! No SOP for it, demonstrates inability to think autonomously.
- Ways to ask the same question – e.g. ask a trainee what they think made them ‘stand out from the rest’ when they applied for the post.
- Supporting statement – bespoke information about your personalised suitability for the posts on offer. Some level of knowledge/experience of MP or CE is useful – understand what you are applying for, why you are applying, and why you are the correct person for a post.
- Junior applicants - considered equitably alongside senior applicants – please state if ‘predicted grades’ (e.g. from coursework) are declared.
- Please do not attempt to follow-up your application with a personal email to myself or colleagues with supporting CV materials etc. The review process is entirely blinded and fair, any attempt to override it will be looked upon negatively.

Practical Steps

- Short-listing is likely to happen during mid Feb 2022
- Those selected for interview will be contacted in early Mar 2022
- Interviews will take place via VC (MS Teams) at very end of Mar 2022
- Interview likely to involve representatives from each training centre (up to 5 panel members) – about 30 minutes per applicant
- Those successful at interview will be contacted shortly afterwards with an offer of a 'band 6' training place at one of the major centres
- You can specify training centre preferences at interview, but this may limit your opportunities
- NHS GG&C, Lothian, Grampian, Highland and Tayside are all highly desirable locations for many reasons
- Speak with current trainees who will tell you all about their experiences

Any Questions? **(2022 Survey)**