**What is an ACCP?**

The Advanced Critical Care Practitioner role is a new way of working for health professionals working in critical care. It is acknowledged that the role described crosses the professional boundaries of many functions within critical care, including medicine, nursing, technical, physiotherapy and clinical pharmacology.

The ACCP Advisory Group have published an information leaflet for patients and relatives. [You can download a copy here](https://www.ficm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/accp-patient-information-leaflet-v1.pdf).

**Who can train as an ACCP?**

Any UK registered professional can train as an ACCP i.e. nurses and AHPs. Currently this would exclude ODPs as non-medical prescribing is a fundamental part of the ACCP role; being ineligible to undertake this aspect of the course would at this point preclude them from applying for a FICM recognised ACCP programme.

**Where can you train as an ACCP?**

Any HEI providing the appropriate PGDip Advanced Critical Care Practice to include as part of or in addition to the non-medical prescribing module. As the curriculum mandates a parallel of academic and clinical practice training of ACCPs will occur in existing UK training centres approved for, at a minimum, Stage 1 and 2 ICM level training. The FICM considers that units who do not train this level of ICM CCT trainee would be unable to deliver the level of training required by the ACCP curriculum; as such the Faculty would not consider it appropriate for FICM Associate Fellowship to be awarded to any ACCPs trained in units who do not receive this level of ICM CCT trainee. Whilst non-training units may be able to partner with a HEI and offer ACCP training to interested nurse and AHP colleagues, those trainees would not be eligible for any official Faculty recognition of that training, nor to apply for FICM Associate Fellowship upon completion of their ACCP training programme. Any non-ICM training approved unit seeking to run ACCP training must make this prospectively clear to any applicants for their programme.

**How do I know if the ACCP training programme I am applying for is appropriate?**

We know that the term ACCP has been wrongly used to include any practitioner position regardless of the length, depth and quality of training. Ensure that the training programme you are undertaking complies with the tenets laid out within the FICM curriculum. Be proactive and ask the local trainers whether the training programme adheres to the FICM curriculum and whether it will leave you eligible upon completion to apply for FICM Associate Membership.

**Is there a correct way to term training programmes for ACCPs?**

Yes. Training programmes that adhere to the FICM ACCP Curriculum should be designated as ‘Advanced Critical Care Practitioner training in line with the FICM Curriculum.’ It should be noted in the material that those who complete the full training programme would be eligible for Associate Membership of the Faculty.

**Where can you work as an ACCP?**

Although training must occur in units accredited for Stage 1 and Stage 2 ICM CCT training, post-qualification trained ACCPs may work in any ICU. However FICM strongly recommend a robust process of CPD and supervision with clear local clinical governance arrangements

**How long is training?**

Training is two years, full time.

**Where can I find the curriculum?**

Please visit the [**ACCP Curriculum**](https://www.ficm.ac.uk/accps/curriculum) page.

**How do I become an Associate Member?**

Application is via the FICM website. Please visit the [**Associate Membership**](https://www.ficm.ac.uk/membership/associate-membership) page.

**Which HEIs [Higher Educational Institutions] have ACCP courses?**

Please visit the [**ACCP Training**](https://www.ficm.ac.uk/accps/training)page. Please note that the FICM do not formally assess or endorse HEIs - this list consists of HEIs with courses which would be comparable with the ACCP curriculum 2013.

**Can I APEL previous relevant course modules towards my ACCP training?**

Yes in conjunction with the HEI the APEL process where appropriate to the ACCP programme can be used.

**Can you transfer overseas qualifications?**

There is no formal route for this; currently the ACCP role is very clearly defined by the curriculum, benchmarking against overseas practice given the wide variation would require local ICU / HEI review and UK module and clinical competencies completion. Application for FICM Associate status would be only possible based on successful matching of these.

**How do I train ACCPs on my unit?**

If you are a unit accepting stage 1 +2 trainees for ICM training ACCPs would involve:

* Engagement with a local HEI to run an ACCP PGDip course.
* Engagement of key stakeholders in our organisation to assess the possibility of the ACCP role being a viable workforce solution for your unit.
* Plan the end point of training - most, if not all, ACCPs take a position on the medical rota. Be clear how this will work including supervision requirements.
* Business case development - early involvement of your divisional managers and repeated "marketing" of the planned ACCP role in your strategic, financial and workforce planning. Getting the Medical and Nursing Directors on board early is key.

**What about regulation?**

At present ACCPs need to retain their base professional registration with their regulatory bodies, this may alter in the future but currently there is no way to register the ACCP role separately.

**What about revalidation?**

You are bound by the revalidation rules from your base professional registering body. See advice on the toolkits section on how this may be achieved.

**What about indemnity?**

Working in a UK Trust you will have NHS indemnity, it is your responsibility to ensure you have appropriate Standard Operating Procedures ratified by your Governance structure - these should be very explicit around the issue of supervision.
Many ACCPs choose to take out additional personal cover via the MDU to provide additional insurance. You do not need to have this but as many of us do choose to have it for the additional security and independent legal advice with your interests as the focus.