In order to comply with national policy relating to the recruitment, training, retention and development of specialist medical practitioners, it has been determined that the following process will apply to the recruitment and selection of new specialist trainees:

1. Available specialist training places will be allocated by the Royal College of Physicians in the first instance to those candidates who at the time of application are citizens of Ireland or nationals of another Member State of the European Union.

2. All such appointments will be made in order of merit, and are subject to the applicant meeting the conditions and standards prescribed by the Royal College of Physicians.

3. Should training places on the specialist training programme remain unfilled following the initial round where qualified candidates (as outlined above) are offered training places, the Royal College of Physicians may allocate any remaining training places to candidates who at the time of application were otherwise qualified save for meeting the condition specified in paragraph 1 above.

4. All offers made under paragraph 3 above will be made in order of merit, and are subject to an applicant meeting the conditions and standards prescribed by the Royal College of Physicians.

5. To manage this allocation process, all applicants at the time of application are required to submit to the Royal College of Physicians a colour copy of their passport. The colour copy submitted must be legible and include the passport identity page. Where appropriate, applicants should submit a copy of their Certificate of Naturalisation as issued by the Department of Justice and Equality if such is required for an applicant to be considered as a candidate specified in paragraph 1 above.

6. An applicant’s citizenship status is a matter entirely between the applicant and the relevant national authorities. The Royal College of Physicians will not entertain or take account of applications for naturalisation that are pending with the relevant authorities. All required evidence must be provided at the time of application.

24th October 2013