

GET FOCUSED ON POCUS: EXPERIENCES OF A POST CCT PICU & POINT OF CARE ULTRASOUND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

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Introduction:

POCUS (Point of care ultrasound) is a growing area of interest within the PICU community. To our knowledge Southampton Children's Hospital offers the only post CCT fellowship in Paediatric Intensive Care Medicine and POCUS within the UK. Launching in 2018, the year long fellowship is currently in its third iteration and offers a bespoke programme with the opportunity to gain accreditation in POCUS and undertake related projects focusing on educational, governance or research activities depending on individual interests.

POCUS Accreditation:



Fellows have gained accreditation through undertaking the FUSIC (Focused Ultrasound in Intensive Care) curriculum, offered by the Intensive Care Society, completing modules including: Lung, Heart, Abdomen & Vascular.

Accreditation Pathway:

1. Completion of face-to-face training course and/or E-learning pathway – video lectures
2. Supervised scans alongside mentor
3. Independent scans with mentor review of log book
4. Assessment of Competence

POCUS Related Projects:



- Development of educational resources to support development of CACTUS (Children's Acute Ultrasound) including:
 - Development of Training Videos
 - Knowledge Assessment Tools
 - E-Learning POCUS Cases
- Supported delivery of CACTUS courses
- In-house POCUS training of colleagues
- Supervision of BMedSci & MSc Students
- Contribution to POCUS related research projects within the children's hospital

Clinical Experiences:

- Additional PICU and transport experience in mixed PICU
- Opportunity to undertake Chief Fellow weeks, supported acting up, transitioning from middle grade to senior role
- Locum consultant experience

Discussion and Conclusion:

Since inception in 2016 the CACTUS course has been running regularly to provide baseline POCUS training. To gain competence this is followed by a mentorship which has recently gained endorsement by PCCS. In order to disseminate training, as the CACTUS programme evolves, a growing base of mentors will be required to meet the training needs within the paediatric community. This fellowship provides additional post CCT PICU training experience and the chance to develop expertise in POCUS. In addition, there is the potential to support mentorship within the paediatric arena and disseminate training in point of care ultrasound for future paediatricians, paediatric intensivists, neonatologists and emergency medicine clinicians.

