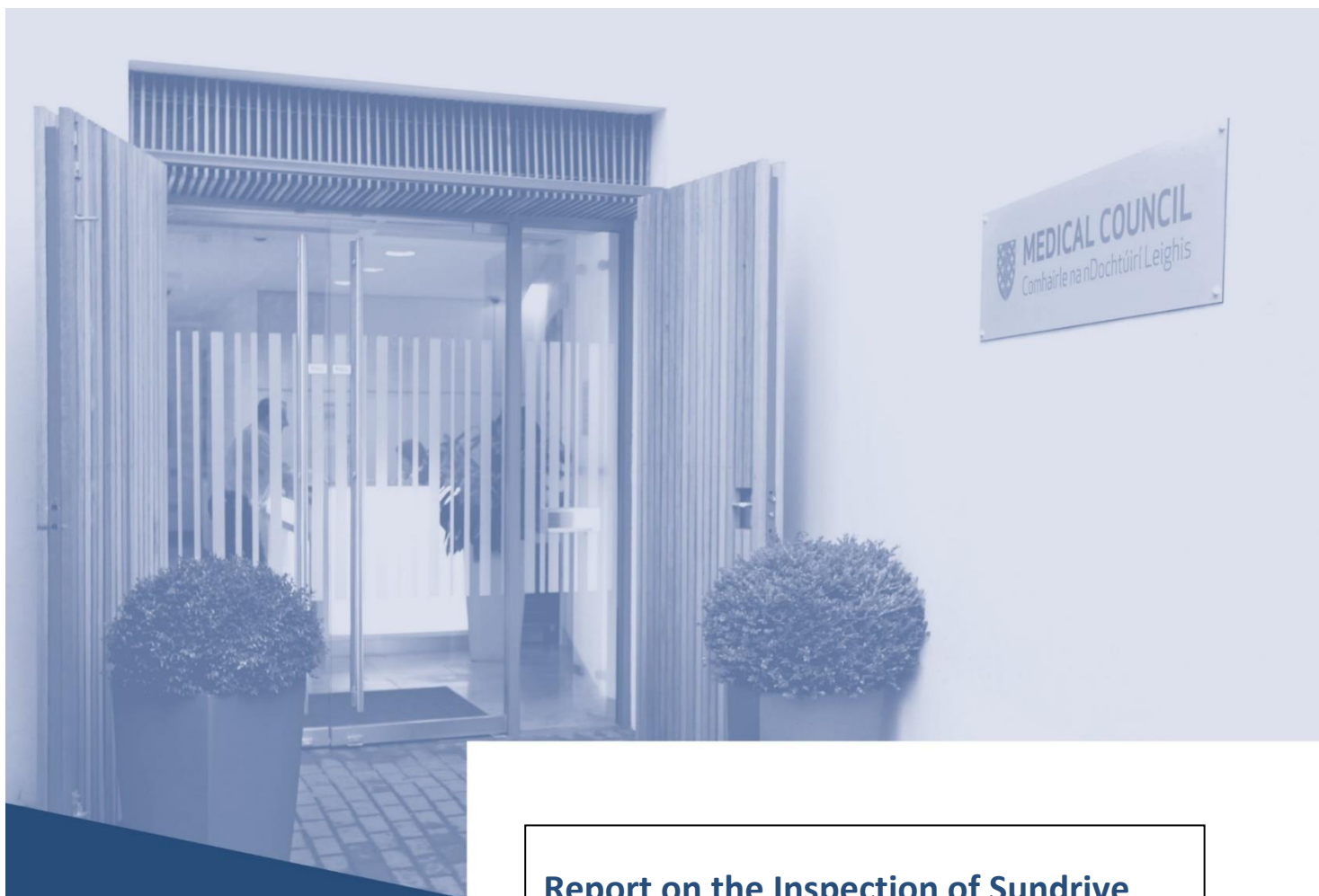




Comhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis
Medical Council



Report on the Inspection of Sundrive Medical Centre

2023



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Medical Council



About the Medical Council

The Medical Council's remit is patient safety, and the Medical Council is the regulatory body for doctors in Ireland. The Council is comprised of 25 members (13 non-medical and 12 medical members). The Council maintains the Register of Medical Practitioners - the Register of all doctors who are legally permitted to carry out medical work in Ireland.

The Medical Council has a statutory role in protecting the public by promoting the highest professional standards amongst doctors practising in the Republic of Ireland. The Council sets the standards for medical education and training in Ireland. It oversees lifelong learning and skills development throughout doctors' professional careers through its professional competence requirements. It is charged with promoting good medical practice. The Medical Council is also where the public may make a complaint against a doctor.

Context for Intern Inspections

As part of the Medical Council's regulatory and quality assurance role, the Council sets and monitors adherence to standards for education and training as set out in Medical Practitioners Act 2007.

For Intern clinic training sites, the standards for education and training are set out in the [Standards for Training and Experience Required for the Granting of a Certificate of Experience to an Intern](#). These standards have been drawn up in fulfilment of the Medical Council's responsibilities under Part 10 of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007 to specify and publish in the prescribed manner the standards for training and experience for interns which is required for the granting of a certificate of experience (section 88 (3) (d)).

The Council monitors compliance and adherence to these standards via site inspections and monitoring processes.





INSPECTION REPORT – SUNDRIVE MEDICAL CENTRE

Date of Inspection: 7th September 2023

Location: Sundrive Medical Centre, 36, Sundrive Road, Kimmage, Dublin 12

Inspection team

Assessor Team: Prof Mary O’Sullivan (Chair)
Prof John Jenkins

Executive support: Ms Denise Carroll - Head of Quality Assurance
Ms Sarah Jane Bowen - Inspections Manager

Inspection considerations and decision-making process:

The assessor team took into account all documentation submitted by Sundrive Medical Centre, the self-evaluation form and supporting documentation received prior to the visit; and the information and explanations provided by the supervisors and trainers at each site and the information provided by the Interns interviewed on site, when assessing the clinical training sites’ compliance with Medical Council Standards for Training and Experience Required for the Granting of a Certificate of Experience to an Intern.

A level of compliance will be applied to each standard based on documentation reviewed as mentioned above, information gathered from interviews and the facilities walk. The varying levels of compliance that can be allocated to each standard are highlighted below.

Recommendation and Commendations can be offered based on the compliance rating and any general observations by the Team following the inspection visit.

Level of Compliance for each Standard can be rated as:

Non- compliance (NC)



Partial compliance (PC)



Full compliance (FC)





Standard 1: Rotations

Which category of interns did you meet?

Surgery in general	☐	Medicine in general	☐	Emergency Medicine	☐
General Practice	☒	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	☐	Paediatrics	☐
Anaesthesia	☐	Radiology	☐	Psychiatry	☐

Duration of Rotation: 3 months

Criteria	FC/ PC /NC
1. Training and experience must comply with the Medical Council's policy on length of internship and approved rotations; that is, a minimum of a total of twelve months, which should normally be consecutive, of which at least three months must be spent in Medicine in general and at least three months in Surgery in general.	FC
2. As part of this twelve-month period, an intern may also be employed for not less than two months and not more than four months in the following specialties: Emergency Medicine; General Practice; Obstetrics and Gynaecology; Paediatrics; Psychiatry; Anaesthesia (to include perioperative medicine) and Radiology.	FC
Assessor Comments: Sundrive Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 1 – Rotations. 1. The visiting assessor team noted that the current Intern's GP rotation was for 3 months at Sundrive Medical Centre. The remaining Interns to have placements at Sundrive Medical Centre were also for a 3-month period. 2. The Intern rotation falls within the General Practice speciality. Recommendations - Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Sundrive Medical Centre on Standard 1. Commendations - There are no commendations for this standard.	



Standard 2: Accreditation

Criteria	FC/ PC /NC
1. The training site must be affiliated with a Medical School and/or a PGTB/network and/ or health system which is accredited by the relevant regulator. The responsible body for organising, coordinating, managing, and assessing the training setting and the training process on the site must be clearly identified.	FC
Assessor Comments Sundrive Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 2 – Accreditation. 1. Sundrive Medical Centre is associated with the TCD, Dublin Southeast Intern Network.	
Recommendations Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Sundrive Medical Centre on Standard 2.	
Commendations There are no commendations for this standard.	

Standard 3: Content of Training

Criteria	FC/ PC /NC
1. Practice – based training involving the intern’s personal participation, at an appropriate level, in the service and responsibilities of patient-care activity, in the training institution.	FC
2. Personal participation at a level (not acting “above grade”) appropriate to an intern’s growing competence (including not being asked to undertake clinical activities above their level of competence).	FC
3. Regular opportunities for the intern to exercise responsibility and clinical decision-making appropriate to their growing competency, skills, knowledge and experience.	FC
4. Regular opportunities to work as an integral part of a team with a variety of disciplinary backgrounds.	FC
5. Regular, pre-arranged/ scheduled formal education and training sessions.	FC
6. Evidence that the content of training and syllabus / curriculum is consistent with the eight domains of good professional practice as adopted by the Medical Council.	FC
7. Does this site provide training delivered in an integrated manner to include theoretical learning and practical training during service delivery?	FC
Assessor Comments:	



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Sundrive Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 3 – Content of Training.

1. Following conversations with both the intern and her supervisor it was clear that personal participation was at the appropriate level, in terms of service and responsibilities of patient-care activity. The Intern felt well supported from the start of her rotation to her current position.
2. The intern at this site advised she acts at a grade appropriate to her growing competence. The intern advised they are slowly building up more responsibility.
3. Both the intern and her supervisor were happy with her progress and level of responsibility and clinical decision-making in line with the intern's growing competency, knowledge and experience.
4. The intern felt she had regular opportunities to work as an integral part of a team and mentioned she works with the staff at the Front of House and the nurses at the practice. They work closely with the doctors every day. In their work at Cheeverstown Residential Service, the intern also interacts with the pharmacist.
5. The intern attends weekly teaching sessions in Tallaght University Hospital both on Tuesday and Friday.
6. From discussions with both the intern and the supervisor, it is clear training is happening based on the Eight Domains of Good Professional Practice. The supervisor on-site links in with supervisors who have previously had interns in their practices.
7. Training is delivered in an integrated manner. The supervisor on-site has case-based discussions with the intern, discussing interesting cases. As above, the intern also attends at Cheeverstown Residential Service with a doctor from the practice, as well as the daily informal learnings from supervision following each patient case the intern works on.

The assessor team noted that it would be beneficial for the intern on-site to attend an out of hours care session with a doctor from the practice to enhance their experience in the service and responsibilities of patient-care activity within general practice. It did not happen as it was noted that on week 2 of the current GP rotation the intern in question was scheduled for a week of on call at Tallaght University hospital. The Sundrive Medical Centre team did not feel it was appropriate to add additional out of hours work to the intern's workload. This was noted as a missed opportunity for the intern to experience out of hours work in a GP community setting.

Recommendations:

- Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Sundrive Medical Centre on Standard 3.

Commendations:

- The assessor team would like to commend the supervisor at Sundrive Medical Centre for the quality of the intern's induction on site. Several factors were considered to ensure the intern was continuously supported and could settle in at ease. The intern commented that the short document prepared by the supervisor for her on arrival was like a handbook to the job, which was very useful.
- The assessors would also like to commend inclusion of the intern at visits to Cheeverstown Residential Service. This is a great opportunity for the intern to engage with the nurses, doctors, and pharmacist there and a great exposure to a different work context.



Standard 4: Supervision

Criteria	FC/ PC /NC
1. There must be effective overarching supervision of the intern's training and clinical practice by an identified clinician(s) of appropriately senior level, normally a specialist doctor who is recognised as a specialist by the relevant regulatory authority of the host country.	FC
Assessor Comments: Sundrive Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 4 – Supervision. 1. It was felt that the intern at Sundrive Medical Centre is adequately supervised, with overarching supervision from the supervisor on-site, as well as day-to-day supervision from other doctors at the practice. It was also noted that patient management and treatment plans are signed off by the supervisor. Recommendations - Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Sundrive Medical Centre on Standard 4. Commendations - There are no commendations for this standard.	

Standard 5: Assessment

Criteria	FC/ PC /NC
1. There must be evidence of regular and constructive feedback and assessment by the supervisor/trainer who has knowledge of the intern's development and performance and can verify their satisfactory progress.	FC
2. The supervisor/trainer must meet any requirements set by the Medical Council regarding the policy and process of final assessment and sign-off.	FC
Assessor Comments Sundrive Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 5 – Assessment. 1. It was felt that the intern at Sundrive Medical Centre is adequately assessed, with regular and constructive feedback and assessment from the supervisor. 2. The supervisor was aware that there is a formal sign-off process and the signed form to be provided to the Intern Network Co-ordinator. However, the supervisor had not had sight of this sign-off form. It would be useful for the Intern Network Co-ordinator to signpost each of the intern supervisors and interns to this form early in the process.	



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Recommendations

- Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Sundrive Medical Centre on Standard 5.

Commendations:

- There are no commendations for this standard.

Standard 6: Professionalism

Criteria	FC/PC/NC
1. The training environment must emphasise professionalism and the development and maintenance of the relevant knowledge, skills, attitude and behaviour, including communication skills, integrity, compassion, honesty, adherence to professional codes, respect for patients and their families, colleagues and self-care.	FC
2. The intern must be aware of, and comply with, the Medical Council's "Guide to Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Medical Practitioners", and the training should support these ethical standards.	FC

Assessor Comments:

Sundrive Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 6 – Professionalism.

- The supervisor on-site at Sundrive Medical Centre advised that tutorials around Professionalism happen organically and are not formalised.
- The intern was aware of the Medical Council's "Guide to Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Medical Practitioners".

Recommendations

- Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Sundrive Medical Centre on Standard 6.

Commendations:

- There are no commendations for this standard.

Standard 7: Resources for Interns

Criteria	FC/PC/NC
1. Access to a sufficient number of patients and case mix so as to provide exposure to a broad range of clinical cases appropriate to the rotation.	FC
2. Space and opportunity for private study and access to a library with adequate and up to date books and journals, including on-line access to standard library databases for journal access and literature searches.	FC



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3. The number of interns on a site should be appropriate to the resources of that site, including its staffing at all levels while at the same time having due regard for patient care and comfort.	FC
4. The training site must emphasise the primacy of patient safety, and interns must be encouraged to raise concerns about ethical issues, should they arise, with their mentor, clinical supervisor and/or the hospital authorities. The intern must have access to appropriate advice and counselling should it be required.	FC

Assessor Comments:

Sundrive Medical Centre was found to be fully compliant in all areas relating to Standard 7 – Professionalism.

1. The intern has a sufficient case-mix and is assigned patients from the team at Front of House. The intern has been able to practise practical skills such as phlebotomy and learn more about aspects of practice of particular relevance to primary care such as Chronic Disease Management, as well as building up more responsibility as her time at the practice progressed.
2. The intern has appropriate space and opportunity for private study and is assigned a room to work from every day.
3. There was one intern on-site at the time of the inspection, and the remaining rotations will also see one intern per rotation. There is an appropriate level of resources for the site to provide safe patient care.
4. The intern is aware of the escalation process should they require it.

Recommendations

- Based on full compliance, there are no recommendations for Sundrive Medical Centre on Standard 7.

Commendations:

- There are no commendations for this standard.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION AND THE INSPECTION VISIT.

General observations:

At Sundrive Medical Centre, there are 2 partners, 3 GP Assistants and 4.5 whole-time equivalent doctors at the practice, in addition to 2 GP trainees, 1 practice manager, 1 secretary and 2.75 whole time equivalent reception staff. There are 3 nurses, equivalent to 1.5 approximately whole-time equivalents, and a part time HCA/phlebotomist approximately 4 mornings per week.

The practice is located in a single-story building with accessible toilets. There is a large reception area with waiting room. The practice attends to Cheeverstown Nursing Home residence and the intern can attend with a doctor.

Recommendations:

Based on full compliance with all standards, there are no recommendations for Sundrive Medical Centre.



Commendations:

Standard 3: Content of Training

- The assessor team would like to commend the supervisor at Sundrive Medical Centre for the quality of the intern's induction on site. Several factors were considered to ensure the intern was continuously supported and could settle in at ease. The intern commented that the short document prepared by the supervisor for her on arrival was like a handbook to the job, which was very useful.
- The assessors would also like to commend the inclusion of the intern with visits to Cheeverstown Residential Service. This is a great opportunity for the intern to engage with the nurses, doctors, and pharmacist there and is great exposure to a different work context.

DECLARATION

The Clinical Site at Sundrive Medical Centre on 7th September 2023 for the purposes of:

- Satisfying the Council that Sundrive Medical Centre setting meets acceptable intern training standards. (49 (3)(b)) MPA 2007
- Monitoring adherence to guidelines on medical education and training for interns and standards for training and experience required for the granting of a certificate of experience. (88(3)(e)) MPA 2007

It is recommended that Sundrive Medical Centre, 36, Sundrive Road, Kimmage, Dublin 12 be approved by the Council as the site:

- Is with the standards for training and experience required for the granting of a certificate of experience to an Intern.
 - Adheres to the relevant Guidelines on Medical Education and Training for Interns
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