

# Year 5 Student Catalogue for Community Placements 2013/14



## **IMPORTANT – Please read the following before submitting your choices**

### **Introduction**

This is the Student Choice Catalogue of all the available GP practices who have agreed to teach Year 5 students for the 2013/14 academic year. The types of Community Placements that are available are GP practices in a variety of locations including urban and rural areas around the North West of England (and elsewhere!), community psychiatry and community paediatrics.

### **Useful points to keep in mind before making your choices**

- Please do **NOT** choose a placement where member of staff is a relative, friend or family, where members of your family are patients, or where you are patients.
- Please submit your choices by **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2013** otherwise you will be considered as a late submission and allocated last.
- Please be aware, that due to supply and demand, you are not guaranteed to be given one of your choices.

### **Making your choices**

The allocation process will be similar to that for SSCs. Students are required to submit four choices on Medlea and the allocations will be done through the Medlea system. Last year over 75% of students were allocated to one of their four choices and we have made some changes to the allocation process to try to improve this percentage for 2013/14.



We encourage you to choose placements outside the Manchester (or Preston) area, like Bolton, Wigan and Macclesfield, as there is a high demand for placements located centrally (i.e. close to your base hospitals) and supply is limited.

To give to you an example which occurred last year, over 300 students chose our 5 most popular placements which are located centrally but they only offered just 38 places!!

This means that you are more likely to be allocated to a practice you have *not chosen* if you only select practices close to base.

As well as considering location, you might like to think about the sort of practice you would like to experience. If you have been in inner city practices in the past, why not try a rural one in fifth year? If you have been in a middle class white population with a lot of old people, why not try a mixed ethnicity practice with a younger population? Do the GPs have a special interest that would give you a wider experience? Drug clinics? Dermatology? Prison medicine? Sexual health?

### **Community Paediatrics and Psychiatry**

We have a small number of community paediatric and psychiatry placements in each block. These placements have received high ratings for teaching, but be aware that past students have also commented that these placements do not provide the width of experience available in general practice. They may not be ideal when coming up to exempting exams or finals. If you are thinking of a career in psychiatry or paediatrics you might like to choose these placements post-exempting exams.

### **Hybrid placements**

A few placements are split between either community paediatrics and GP or psychiatry and GP. In these placements you will spend part of the week in one specialty and part in another. This has the advantage of offering you a broader experience, but you will need to be a bit more proactive in these placements to ensure you know where you should be and when!

### **Accommodation**

The Manchester Medical School does provide students with accommodation for most placements that are situated more than 10 miles away from Central Manchester (or Preston). When submitting your choices, you will be asked if you would like to have the accommodation for each of your choices, if available. Taking a placement with accommodation can give you four weeks away from the pressure of exam angst

amongst the student population in your base hospital (allowing you to revise in peace and quiet), so that might influence your choice too.

### **Travel Bursary**

Travel Bursaries are awarded to students who have been allocated to a Community Placement that is more than 10 miles away from Manchester City Centre (or Preston) or from the accommodation provided. If you have been provided with accommodation and would like take the travel bursary instead, then please let Mayur Mistry know on [cbmephase2-3@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:cbmephase2-3@manchester.ac.uk) ***at least 4 weeks before the start of the placement.***

### **Joint Community/DGH Placement**

If you already know that you have been allocated to do a joint DGH/community placement at Blackburn Hospital, you will be manually allocated for that particular block and will be exempted from the normal allocation process. If you have chosen to do the joint DGH/community placement at Blackburn but do not know if you have been allocated there, please select BB2 as one of your choices. If you are doing a joint DGH/community placement at Leighton, please select community placements beginning with CW or NO as one of your choices.

### **New this year – distant but interesting!**

If you are from the Lancs/ Yorkshire border, why not look at the **Skipton** practice (NY1) we have recruited this year? We have also recruited two practices on the **Isle of Man** (IOM1, IOM2), where accommodation will be provided in the local hospital. All of these new practices are training practices so we are confident they will give you an enthusiastic welcome and a good learning experience.

Our only stipulation is that you do not choose practice where you or your family are patients or staff.

### **Mitigating Circumstances and Additional Support**

If you have any mitigating circumstances, please get in contact with your base hospital and submit your mitigating circumstances form with your choices. Please do **NOT** submit your choices on Medlea. Students who are carrying year four exams into year five, or re-sitting year five should also speak to their base SWAP team or Hospital Dean *before making their selections*, as it may be possible to arrange for a practice which is particularly supportive of your educational needs in this instance.

### **Any Questions?**

If you have any questions, please contact Mayur Mistry on [cbmephase2-3@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:cbmephase2-3@manchester.ac.uk) or 0161 275 1855.

