Joint Specialty Committee on Cardiology

Terms of Reference

This is a standing committee established jointly between the Royal College of Physicians of London and the British Cardiovascular Society (Specialist Society). The joint committee is advisory rather than executive, and has accountability to each of its parent bodies. In terms of accountability to the College, it reports to Council through the Medical Specialties Board.

The Committee is established to advise its parent bodies or other organisations on their behalf, on matters of mutual interest. These will include:

- revalidation and specialty specific issues arising from this
- workforce and training
- continuing professional development
- quality of care and clinical governance issues
- issues arising from service delivery
- advice and oversight of RCP invited service reviews relevant to specialty
- any other specific matter of particular relevance to a specialty
- advice to College or other Working Parties.
- agreeing joint recommendations, position papers and policy statements

The Committee may liaise with other organisations as appropriate to share or obtain advice. However the Committee, or any of its members, may not make any public statement or approve any published materials in its own name or that of its parent bodies, except with their approval.

Constitution

Chairmanship

The President of the British Cardiovascular Society will act as chairman of the committee with the proviso that this is a joint committee, so there must be agreement and mutual respect. Either body will have the right to object in extremis.

The chairman’s term of office will normally be for three years and aligned to president BCS post.

Membership

Each parent body will nominate its own representatives. Neither party should be seen to be prescriptive about the other’s nominees, although wherever possible College nominees will be members of the specialist society, and specialist society nominees will be Members or Fellows of the College.
The Royal College of Physicians welcomes and actively seeks to recruit people to its activities regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. The RCP aims to reflect the diversity of its members in all its committee, senior roles and staff in general. The diversity of the specialty will be considered in determining appointments.

BCS members’ tenure will be dictated by the term of office of the post they hold within the society (typically 3 years though may be less) with any extension on review. Other appointed members will serve for at least two years and to a maximum of four years, unless they are an ex-officio member whereby their involvement will last as long as their term of office.

Membership will comprise, unless specifically agreed otherwise:

- Two senior College representatives (normally the RCP President and Registrar)
- President of the British Cardiovascular Society
- Two senior representatives from the Society (normally the Vice President for Training and the Vice President for Clinical Standards, and where relevant their respective elect positions)
- One representative of the RCP New Consultants Committee
- One trainee representative (normally the President of the British Junior Cardiac Association)
- The chairman of the Cardiology SAC
- One or two patient representatives (nominated from the RCP patient network and normally the President of Cardiovascular Care Partnership (UK))
- A representative from the Scottish Colleges observer role
- Elected BCS Council member
- National Clinical Director for Heart Disease
- Invitation of other members as appropriate to the agenda

Frequency of meetings

The Committee will meet twice per year. The meeting will remain virtual until review.

Review

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually.

Next review: September 2022