Our mission

The RCP has 500 years’ experience in setting healthcare standards and improving patient care in the UK. We have a responsibility to use this experience to improve access to quality healthcare worldwide.

Our mission is to be seen globally as the ‘go to’ organisation for setting, measuring and improving standards of healthcare and patient experience.

Our core values

The Royal College of Physicians (RCP) has 500 years’ experience in setting healthcare standards and improving patient care in the UK. We have a responsibility to use this experience to improve access to quality healthcare worldwide.

Our mission is to be seen globally as the ‘go to’ organisation that is capable of setting, measuring and improving standards of healthcare and patient experience.

Our primary focus is on improving patient care through workforce development.

We work collaboratively with partners across the world to deliver programmes that are sustainable, based on local needs and rooted in the wider global health context – including the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

We utilise the skills and expertise of the RCP’s 35,000 members in more than 80 countries while providing members with opportunities to broaden their experience.

Our programmes have reached more than 6,000 physicians working in low-resource settings in the past 3 years.
Welcome to our 2017 Impact Report.

2017 was a year of both firsts and conclusions; our first global health conference, our first course in Sierra Leone, the first group of MTI participants to be awarded the Diploma in UK Medical Practice, and the conclusion of our M-PACT infectious diseases programme to name just a few of the milestones reached.

It was perhaps the busiest year to date in terms of overseas activity and the perfect platform to build upon as we move into 2018 – the year of the RCP’s 500th anniversary.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members who supported international activities during the year, whether through teaching overseas, speaking at one of our events or providing guidance during the development stages of a project.

This is also the perfect opportunity to announce our transition from the RCP International Office to RCP Global; a fresh identity which we feel better represents the scale of the RCP’s international ambition and reach.

This report simply provides the headlines – please don’t hesitate to get in touch if you’d like to know more about any of the projects included, or you’d like to discuss ways in which you can work with the RCP.

Warmest wishes,

Professor Ali Jawad, international medical director

The Medical Training Initiative

Providing overseas doctors with the opportunity to undertake a 2-year training fellowship in the UK

Worldwide

Achieved in 2017

▶ 2017 was the biggest year to date for the RCP Medical Training Initiative (MTI), with 217 applicants approved to undertake placements in NHS trusts – up from 212 in 2016.
▶ First group of participants awarded the Diploma in UK Medical Practice (DipUKMP), a qualification introduced to enable overseas doctors to fully demonstrate the value and breadth of experience gained during their placement.
▶ 147 attendees at MTI inductions, our GMC-endorsed introduction to UK practice.
▶ Interviews conducted in Pakistan, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Sudan.
▶ Partnerships established with five new countries: Indonesia, Philippines, Jamaica, Saudi Arabia and Zambia.
Achieved in 2017

> Eight clinical training courses delivered in Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal and Sierra Leone — a total of eighteen courses delivered over the 3-year programme.
> A total of 582 doctors from 12 West African countries upskilled in the diagnosis, treatment and management of HIV, TB and malaria.
> An estimated 5,820 healthcare workers reached through cascaded learning (as all participants are empowered to pass improved knowledge on to trainees).
> Final M-PACT evaluation report, including learning and recommendations for future programmes in Africa, published.

‘M-PACT has had a huge impact on the way (participants) manage the complications associated with these diseases. Their leadership skills have improved tremendously too.’

— Dr Albert Akpalu, West African College of Physicians assistant secretary general and Ghana course convener
The Medical Training and Fellowship (METAF) Programme

Building capacity in the specialties of oncology and neurology across East Africa

Achieved in 2017

- A total of nine clinical training courses delivered in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda during the year, with 145 East African physicians receiving training. The total number of physicians trained now stands at 224.
- Plans for a further 14 courses in 2018 finalised.
- Memorandum of understanding signed by the RCP, the British Council and University Teaching Hospital of Butare to roll out the METAF neurology programme in Rwanda.

The East Central and Southern Africa College of Physicians (ECSACoP)

Supporting the newly established College in its mission to double the number of physicians being trained in the region by 2030

Achieved in 2017

- Worked with the College’s Council to facilitate 3-day educational leaders’ courses in Zambia and Uganda to ensure that those enlisted to teach at ECSACoP training centres have excellent, current skills in transferring knowledge to adults.
- Contributed to the development of a training centre accreditation toolkit.
- Participated in ECSACoP’s second Annual General and Scientific Meeting in Kampala, Uganda.
- College registered with regulatory bodies in Zambia and Zimbabwe, applications submitted for recognition in Kenya, Malawi and Uganda.
Doctor–patient communication skills training

Providing doctors of all levels with the opportunity to refresh and develop essential verbal and non-verbal communications skills in Myanmar and India.

Achieved in 2017

- Doctor–patient communications skills courses, incorporating content on patient-centred care, active listening and breaking bad news, held in both Mandalay and Yangon, Myanmar.
- First course in New Delhi, India delivered.
- Plans developed to expand training into Malaysia during 2018.

Conferences

Using our members’ skills and expertise to share best practice and shape the future of healthcare worldwide.

Achieved in 2017

- The RCP’s first global health conference, ‘Global ambition, global reach: Advancing patient care in low-resource settings’, was held in October, with more than 120 global health leaders, partners and members in attendance. The programme featured input from several leading non-governmental organisations including Save the Children, Doctors Under Fire, RedR UK and the Jordan National Red Crescent Society.
- World Diabetes Day conference delivered in Amman, Jordan in collaboration with the Jordan Royal Medical Services and under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Muna al-Hussein.
- RCP teams supported and held members’ meetings at the American College of Physicians’ Internal Medicine Meeting, the East, Central and Southern Africa College of Physicians’ Annual General and Scientific Meeting, the Royal Australian College of Physicians’ Annual Congress and the West African College of Physicians’ Annual Conference.
- In addition to the events above, RCP Global representatives participated in conferences in Singapore, India and the UAE.
The refugee health session was excellent. I particularly enjoyed the speaker from the Jordanian Red Crescent. Such a great opportunity to hear a perspective from someone in the region.’

– Dr Mehernoosh Irani, consultant physician at Guy’s Hospital and ‘Global ambition’ conference attendee

The RCP Global Health Consultancy

Launched in 2017, the Global Health Consultancy (GHC) channels the RCP’s expertise to develop a range of services to effectively support the development of healthcare systems in high, middle and low income countries.

Worldwide

With the ability to call on local knowledge and respond to a variety of healthcare challenges including infectious diseases, disease outbreaks, non-communicable diseases and workforce demands, the GHC provides an effective, contextually relevant and flexible service. The GHC works with governments, universities and hospitals, providing consultancy in the areas of:

- quality improvement and structuring of services: strategy, policy and clinical guidelines and healthcare systems development
- continuous education and training: medical courses (short and long), curricula development, non-medical training such as leadership, communication and patient safety.

The GHC is committed to providing a service which is evidence-based, culturally and contextually relevant, and will have a sustainable, lasting impact.
Programmes under development for 2018

- Future Hospital Global
- Workforce 2030

Researching infectious disease screening pathways in rural Pakistan
To find out more about RCP Global programmes or discuss opportunities for your organisation to partner with the RCP, please visit: rcplondon.ac.uk/global or get in touch using: Global@rcplondon.ac.uk.