DISTINCTION PROGRAMME IN QUALITY & INNOVATION

Programme Information

IQuoniC is a distinction programme in Quality and Innovation in Healthcare for NUHS residents. It is a 3-year certificate programme to allow individual NUHS residents the opportunity to develop skills in quality improvement and empower them as agents of change. The programme runs in parallel with the various junior and senior residency programmes.

Outstanding Features

The logo is derived from a photograph taken of a hand placed beneath illuminated light bulbs. The light bulbs symbolize new and bright ideas. The hand has five fingers, symbolising the 5 tenets of the programme – namely Quality, Innovation, Collaboration, Empowerment (of patients and residents) and Value. All resident projects will focus on one or more of these tenets. The fingertips of the human hand form a circle – such that though the fingers are of differing lengths, they are all equal spokes of a circle. Ultimately, the power of change is in our hands.

The 6 domains of quality care:

- **Safe**: Avoiding injuries to patients from the care that is intended to help them
- **Timely**: Reducing waits and sometimes harmful delays for patients and providers
- **Effective**: Providing the appropriate level of services based on scientific knowledge
- **Efficient**: Avoiding waste, including waste of equipment, supplies, ideas and energy
- **Equitable**: Providing care that does not vary in quality because of personal characteristics
- **Patient Centred**: Providing care that is respectful of and responsive to individual patients
Course Structure

Prospective candidates are strongly encouraged to attend the Core Education Modules in Quality & Safety, Evidence Based Medicine, Ethics & Professionalism and Leadership prior to enrolment.

Successful completion of the IQuonIC programme entails accumulation of credits for course work. The programme is designed to be completed over 3 years. However there is flexibility – candidates who accumulate enough credits may complete the programme in 2 years, and conversely, extension up to 4 years in total may be allowed for candidates who wish to proceed at a slower pace or take time off from the course. The IQuonIC programme will run in parallel with the candidates’ parent residency programme.

Residents will be mentored closely throughout the programme. Meet-up sessions with the Programme Director (PD) or Lead Faculty will be scheduled. In addition, each resident will be matched with a clinical supervisor within his / her department. Collaboration with other course participants, and other health care professionals (especially inter-professional collaboration) is strongly encouraged.

Formal evaluation of progress will be recorded every 6 months by the IQuonIC Competency Committee (QICC) consisting of PD, APD and Lead Faculty, and written feedback will be given.

Eligibility & Selection

All Junior and Senior Residents enrolled in any of the NUHS residency programmes are eligible to apply to IQuonIC. Residents must be at least PGY2 at the point of enrolment into the distinction programme.

A call for applications will be made annually, usually in January or February of every year. Applications will be invited from interested candidates who must submit a short 1-page statement of interest and a letter of support from their Programme Director and/ or Head of Department.

Selection interviews will be held in April and the programme will commence in May. Shortlisted applicants will be advised the date and time of interview. Preference will be given to candidates who show passion and a strong sense of commitment. Demonstrated interest in Quality, Safety and Innovation and attendance at the Intern Core Education Programme Quality & Safety modules will be given credit. Candidates must also have demonstrated above average clinical competency and an aptitude for team work and collaboration.

Up to 10 residents will be selected to participate in the programme every year.