

Pre-hospital Emergency Medicine Sub-specialty Training - Kent, Surrey and Sussex

Sub-Specialty Training in Pre-Hospital Emergency Medicine is offered by Health Education England working across Kent Surrey and Sussex in conjunction with Air Ambulance Kent, Surrey and Sussex Trust and other training partners.

Air Ambulance Kent, Surrey and Sussex (AAKSS) is one of the most well established and busiest providers of physician lead pre-hospital care in the UK. The service prides itself on strong governance and a constant desire to innovate in the field of pre-hospital care. AAKSS has a long history of training doctors in the field of Pre-hospital Emergency Medicine and from August 2017 has formally offered sub-specialty training.



“Through creative partnerships we shape and develop the workforce for the benefit of health and wellbeing for all”

We are the Local Education and Training Board for Kent, Surrey and Sussex

Developing people:

for health and

The Region

Trainees in the region will benefit from exposure to cases in a mix of urban, rural and coastal environments serving a population of approximately 5 million people. In addition, our region encompasses some of the UK busiest transport networks, airports, ports and rail systems.

Clinical exposure

A PHEM trainee at AAKSS would be exposed to a wide variety of clinical scenarios. Clinical exposure is focused on high acuity trauma though all trainees are trained and expected to attend medical and paediatric cases.

In 2018 KSS AAT were activated for a total of 2465 missions and treated a total of 1662 patients. Based on the annual clinical case load we anticipate trainees performing approximately 35 RSIs within the training period.

PHEM trainees in the KSS Region will be trained in the administration of pre-hospital blood and plasma and have the benefit of exposure to working within 3 separate Major Trauma Networks.

Trainees in PHEM at AAKSS will be trained and supervised by an experienced and enthusiastic group of senior clinicians with strong emphasis on clinical governance, research and innovation.

The training and training partners

Training is provided from our bespoke base in Redhill in Surrey that opened in 2018. Crews operate from both aircraft and response cars. This post also offers the exciting opportunity to develop an understanding of night operations by both a helicopter platform and response car.

In addition to AAKSS various external organisations (for example South East Coast Ambulance Service) will support training across the curriculum. Most notably we expect our trainees to gain excellent exposure to paediatric and neonatal transfer medicine whilst undertaking observer shifts with the Children's Acute Transfer Service working out of Great Ormond Street Hospital, London.

To date there has been only one formal PHEM trainee, however the scheme will hopefully be subject to expansion in the future. The post is currently paid at Band 1A. The trainee will follow the scheme C (full time PHEM for 12 months) though again this may be subject to change in the future. Candidates who wish to undertake less than full time working will be supported fully.

For further information please contact anthonyh@aakss.org.uk