



ACPSEM

Australasian College of Physical Scientists & Engineers in Medicine
ABN 44 005 379 162

New DIMP TEAP Curriculum – FAQs

Why is the curriculum changing?

Formal and informal feedback provided by supervisors and registrars suggested a number of possible improvements to the current program. These have driven some key changes including a framework that includes 10 Key Areas rather than the current 50+ modules, less duplication of content, and clearer and more achievable training activities aligned with every learning outcome. The new curriculum is founded on contemporary learning principles including more emphasis on programmatic rather than high stakes assessment.

When will the new curriculum be released to members?

A draft of the new curriculum was circulated to all ACPSEM members in September for stakeholder review. A final curriculum (considering feedback from stakeholders) is currently being finalized and should be released to all ACPSEM members before the end of 2022.

Will the new curriculum be on ALEX?

Yes. ALEX will remain as the learning management system for the new curriculum.

Will mapping of evidence be provided by the College?

Yes, a detailed mapping spreadsheet will be provided to all registrars transitioning over to the new curriculum. The mapping spreadsheet will map the work in each module to individual learning outcomes and elements in the new curriculum.

Will recognition of prior learning (RPL) be performed automatically by the college?

Yes. For all modules in the current CTG graded to level 3 (i.e. completed), the mapped learning outcomes will automatically be graded as complete on ALEX for the new curriculum. However, where a module is only partially completed, the registrar and supervisor will have to review each mapped learning outcome, upload evidence on ALEX (for the new curriculum) where appropriate and decide as to which elements of the mapped learning outcomes have been completed and which are still outstanding.

Will module evidence and data (e.g. MSc certificate, PPRs) currently uploaded on ALEX be automatically moved across to the ALEX for the new curriculum?

No. Uploaded documents that exists in ALEX for the current curriculum will remain there when the registrar transitions over to the new curriculum. However, this information will still be accessible to the registrar, supervisor, assessors and examiners. Module evidence will be uploaded to ALEX for the new curriculum by the registrar only when a module is partially completed. This will be as a result of mapping this evidence to new curriculum, as described in the FAQ above.



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Is the new curriculum the same for DR and NM TEAP registrars?

The curriculum contains learning outcomes that are required for all registrars, and also NM and DR learning outcomes which are specific to the specialty of the registrar.

Are there any optional modules in the new curriculum?

No. The content of the optional modules was reviewed as part of the overall curriculum review. The content of some modules that were frequently chosen and considered to be practiced by DIMPs at many institutions, have been moved into the main curriculum as mandatory components (e.g. basic laser safety knowledge). The content of some modules that were rarely or never chosen, have been removed from the curriculum.

Will the same grading system apply to the new curriculum (i.e. level 2 and 3)?

No. The new curriculum includes suggested training activities for each element of each learning outcome. Once the training activity is completed to the supervisor's satisfaction, the registrars will be graded as completed against the element. The only grading options are therefore complete or not complete.

Are all training activities mandatory?

No. Some training activities are mandatory. However, the majority are suggested training activities, and the registrar and supervisor may undertake an alternate training activity that demonstrates the element of the associated learning outcome.

Can I get prior learning through the MSc Coursework recognized?

Key Area 1 covers material that is taught in an ACPSEM accredited Master course. It covers fundamental knowledge of radioactive decay and the interaction of ionizing radiation with matter, ultrasound and nuclear magnetic resonance physics. Registrars who believe they meet the learning outcomes for this key area as a result of their prior learning may apply to take a MCQ test to demonstrate this knowledge. Passing the MCQ will result in all learning outcomes being graded as complete for the key area. Failing the test will require providing evidence of meeting all the learning outcomes for the area.

Is the Part I exam still part of TEAP?

The Part I exam is now a low stakes assessment. The scope has been reduced, and therefore the total number of questions will be reduced. The registrar will obtain clear guidance on which key areas and topics are included in the scope of the part I exam. The part I exam will still be an MCQ exam and will be performed online under supervision but can be taken at any time and feedback will be instant. The registrar will have to wait a minimum period (likely 4 weeks) prior to a subsequent attempt if they do not pass.

Is the Part II exam still part of TEAP?

Yes. The Part II exam will remain a higher stakes assessment. The format of the exam, content and scope is similar to the current part II. The exam will likely be offered at very similar timepoints to the current part II exam (i.e. 3 times per year).



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I am aiming to take the Part I or Part II Exam in March. Will this still be offered?

Yes. The exams planned for 15th March will still be offered.

I am aiming to take the Part I exam later next year. Will this still be offered?

No. After the March exam, the current curriculum Part I exam will be replaced by the lower stakes, reduced scope part I exam of the new curriculum. Registrars will be able to take this exam at more flexible times (see FAQ above). The date of the first opportunity to take this exam is not yet known but will be advertised as soon as the date has been finalised.

I am aiming to take the Part II exam later next year. Will this still be offered?

Yes. The exact exam dates are not known (after the exam date offered in March), but will likely be offered at very similar times as the current exam (e.g. June and October). This will be advertised as soon as dates have been finalised.

Is presentation at a National Conference still required for TEAP?

Yes. However, the PSB (Professional Standards Board) are assessing the meeting requirement for the presentation across all 3 disciplines (DIMP, ROMP, RPS) and are likely to allow the presentation to be at a local Branch meeting. Guidelines around the scope of meeting (e.g. minimum audience, peer review abstract submission etc.) will be distributed when finalized.

Is the production of 3 best pieces of work still required?

Yes. However, these are now formal Reports that will be due at the end of each stage of the program (A, B and C). Guidance will be provided on acceptable reports for the end of stage A and stage B (e.g. shielding report, acceptance testing report) and a scientific / clinical report will be required at the end of stage C which will undergo peer review.

Is a publication still required?

No. The final report will be a scientific / clinical report, written in a similar format to a formal publication. The report will also undergo peer review and the registrar may receive feedback with suggested changes and a requirement for re-submission. However, the registrar is no longer required to have the work published (although this is encouraged).

Will registrars still receive PPRs (Periodic Progress Reviews) throughout TEAP?

Yes. The format is likely to change slightly in order to assess progression through the new curriculum. However, the PPRs will still exist at similar timeframes. These have the flexibility of increasing in frequency if a registrar requires additional support, or at reduced frequency if a registrar is progressing well and does not require support at a high frequency.



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How will progress be monitored?

Registrars will have to progress from stage A, to stage B to stage C during their enrollment in TEAP. A progression panel will make a decision on the registrar's progression once they are ready. Guidance is provided on requirements to progress from each stage to the next. A decision will be based on programmatic assessment (rather than individual high stakes assessments) to progress through each stage. For example, to get from stage A to stage B, a registrar must complete the required learning outcomes, Report 1 and have passed the MCQ exam. If the registrar has completed everything to a high level, has favorable PPR reports but failed the MCQ, there may be an overall decision to let the registrar progress based on consideration of all the evidence.

Are departments required to be re-accredited to fit with the new curriculum?

No. The new curriculum is achievable at all currently accredited departments. Assessment for learning outcomes that are considered to be fundamental learning outcomes (i.e. mandatory for NM or DR registrars) can be performed by a registered NM or DR physicist. However, a supervisor may and should choose to ask a QMP from the other specialty to do assessments that are outside their capabilities. The ACPSEM will rely on appropriate professional conduct from supervisors, rather than dictating the terms for the new curriculum. Therefore, accredited departments will still require access to a registered physicist in the alternate specialty for training (and potentially assessment) purposes.

Can a registrar who is nearly finished the current curriculum but missing a publication, skip the publication?

No. Registrars enrolled in the current curriculum, and planning to complete the current curriculum without transitioning, will be required to meet the publication requirement as per the conditions of their program.

How does the program align with the new ROMP curriculum?

The new ROMP and DIMP curriculums align closely in terms of exams, reports, presentation and the stage A, B and C progression requirements. A publication is no longer required for the new ROMP curriculum.

Which registrars will transition to the new curriculum?

This will depend on the stage of the registrar in February 2023 and if an application has been made for the March exam:

- Registrars who have not passed their part I exam after 15th March 2023 will be required to move over to the new curriculum.
- Registrars who have passed their part I but not their part II exam after 15th March 2023 will be strongly encouraged to move to the new curriculum. Registrars and their supervisors in this cohort will be offered a meeting with their TEAP coordinator to discuss the transition and determine if they wish to move to the new curriculum.
- Registrars who have passed their part II exam after 15th March 2023 will not be required to transition to the new curriculum. However, any registrar who falls in this



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cohort who wishes to move over can discuss the options with their TEAP coordinator, who will facilitate the transition if required
Any registrar who feels disadvantaged by the transition rules above should contact their TEAP coordinator for further advice.

If I am unsure whether to transition, when will the meetings with TEAP coordinators be arranged?

Your TEAP coordinator will contact you individually to ask if you would like to have a meeting to discuss your situation and potential transition onto the new curriculum. The interviews will be arranged in January 2023.

When will the new curriculum be rolled out?

The proposed rollout date is February 2023. Every effort will be made to maintain this roll out date.

If I know I am going to transition over to the new curriculum, how will the transition be managed?

If you know you will transition over (cohort 1), the cutoff date for the current curriculum will be **Friday 10th February 2023**. Any outstanding evidence must be uploaded onto the current ALEX and grading of all work must be performed by this date. ACPSEM will review all completed modules, and grade all learning outcomes mapped to these modules as completed on the new curriculum. Note that uploaded evidence will not be transitioned over but will continue to be accessible to the registrar and supervisor. This transition will be completed after 3 weeks. The registrar and supervisor can then start using ALEX with the new curriculum on **Monday 6th March**. Note these transition times are the maximum required, and if the transition of your work is completed earlier, you will be notified that you can start using the new ALEX at an earlier date. See table 1.

If I am unsure if I am going to transition over to the new curriculum (e.g. waiting for the outcome of the exam on March 15th), how will the transition be managed?

Results from the March exam will be finalised and distributed by Friday 31st March. If you remain on the current curriculum after the result of the March exam, you will continue with the current ALEX. If transition over to the new curriculum after the result of the March exam, **Friday 31st March** will be considered the cutoff date. Any outstanding evidence must be uploaded onto the current ALEX and grading of all work must be performed by this date. ACPSEM will review all completed modules, and grade all learning outcomes mapped to these modules as completed on the new curriculum. Note that uploaded evidence will not be transitioned over but will continue to be accessible to the registrar and supervisor. This transition will be completed after 3 weeks. The registrar and supervisor can then start using ALEX with the new curriculum on **Monday 24th April**. Note these transition times are the maximum required, and if the transition of your work is completed earlier, you will be notified that you can start using the new ALEX at an earlier date. See table 1.

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Table 1 New curriculum transition timelines

Cohort 1 = registrars are definitely going to transition to the new curriculum

Cohort 2a = registrars' transition over depends on results from the exams on March 15th and ultimately transition over to the new curriculum

Cohort 2b = registrars' transition over depends on results from the exams on March 15th and ultimately do not transition over to the new curriculum

Cohort 3 = registrars are definitely not going to transition to the new curriculum

	Cohort 1	Cohort 2a	Cohort 2b & 3
Cutoff date for module evidence upload/grading in current ALEX	Friday 10 th February	Friday 31 st March	NA – continue to use current ALEX
Time for ACPSEM to map completed learning outcomes on the new curriculum (RPL)	3 weeks (maximum)	3 weeks (maximum)	NA
Start date to access ALEX with RPL completed by ACPSEM	Monday 6 th March	Monday 24 th April	NA