PAEDIATRIC TRAINING IN THE UK
Past, Present and Future

Hilary Cass
President
TRAfalgar Square, London - 7th Jan 2015: Je Suis Charlie
In 1937 the first branch of medicine to break away from the old Colleges was the RCOG. Other branches followed; the RCPath in 1964, the RCPsych in 1971....

In 1993 an attempt was being made by the paediatricians to secede.......I was moved to write a somewhat intemperate letter
Dear editor

I write to protest against the proposed formation of a Royal College of Paediatricians. Paediatrics is an important branch of medicine, but so are cardiology, chest medicine, gastroenterology......

Each new college diminishes the prestige and power of existing colleges. When is it going to stop?

If the present trend continues.......I look forward sadly to Royal Colleges of flat feet and halitosis.
CHILDREN ARE NOT SMALL ADULTS!
'It's time to say: we're not getting it right on children's health' – paediatricians' leader

Hilary Cass, president of the Royal College of Paediatrics, says that we need to totally rethink the way we provide healthcare to young people

'We're doing medicine in a really inefficient way,' says RCPCH leader

Dr Hilary Cass, president of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, explains her vision for the future and why she thinks 'defocusing on hospitals' would improve care

Children will die without ward closures, doctor warns

Children will die unnecessarily in overstretched NHS paediatric wards because there are not enough staff to provide adequate cover at nights and weekends, Britain’s most senior child doctor has warned.
WHAT DO CHILDREN NEED OUT OF THE TRAINING SYSTEM?
Deaths in children 0-14 years

Ingrid Wolfe, Lancet, Mar 2013
OUR ‘PROUD’ INDUSTRIAL HISTORY
VICTORIAN ENGLAND

• Half of all children died
• Younger children – common infectious illnesses
• Older children – poverty-related conditions / accidents, including industrial

• Children as young as 4 worked 14 hour days

• Options for those in extreme poverty / orphaned
• Scavenging / begging / workhouse
‘APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO CASUAL WARD’
SIR SAMUEL LUKE FILDES, 1874
Causes of deaths in children 1-14 years, in 1948 and 2006

Wolfe BMJ 2011
Why children die: death in infants, children and young people in the UK
Part A
May 2014

A report by:

INGRID WOLFE
ALISON MACFARLANE
ANGELA DONKIN
MICHAEL MARMOT
RUSSELL VINER

On behalf of:

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PAEDIATRICS AND CHILD HEALTH
NATIONAL CHILDREN’S BUREAU
BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PUBLIC HEALTH

UK child death rate: a scandal with a clear link to poverty
Nearly five in every thousand babies born in Britain will not live to their fifth birthday, and experts say inequality is to blame

Sarah Boseley, health editor
The Guardian, Friday 2 May 2014 19.37 BST
Jump to comments (52)

The UK mortality rate is particularly bad for babies in the first six days of life and aged one month to a year. Photograph: Alamy

The death of a child is always a tragedy. The avoidable deaths of thousands of children under five years old every year in the UK is a scandal, according to the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) and the National Children’s Bureau, who say that inequalities in our society which leave many families in poverty and deprivation are to blame.
DEATHS UNDER A YEAR: PRE-TERM, LBW & STILL BIRTHS
DIRECT AND INDIRECT FACTORS

Health inequalities
Social disadvantage
Maternal age

Obesity in pregnancy
Smoking in pregnancy
Alcohol in pregnancy
DEATHS AFTER FIRST YEAR

INJURY COMMONEST CAUSE – ACCIDENTAL / NON-ACCIDENTAL

Road traffic accidents
• Speed limit 20mph built up areas
• Graduated licensing schemes

Suicide / self-harm
• Mental health services / data collection (CMO report)
• Relevant MH training of child health professionals

Assault / abuse
• Role of schools in pre-empting risk factors
• Measures to mitigate impact of alcohol use
2/3 of all deaths in children with chronic condition

No reduction in deaths from intentional injury in teens over 3 decades
Asthma mortality and children with wheeze

Ingrid Wolfe, Lancet, Mar 2013
NCD mortality amongst 1-4 year olds

- No difference in baseline
- Positive UK linear slope term, i.e. lesser UK mortality decline

Russell Viner et al, Lancet 2014
Obesity prevalence by deprivation decile & year of measurement

National Child Measurement Programme 2006/7 to 2012/13

Children in Year 6 (aged 10-11 years)

Child obesity: BMI ≥ 95th centile of the UK90 growth reference
Percentage of children and young people aged under 25 years with diabetes, HbA1c measurement $<$ 58 mmol/mol (7.5%): progress
Hospital admissions of children and young people aged under 20 years, 2010/11: inequalities

Admissions of the most deprived 19 year olds are twice those of the least deprived.
EVOLUTION OF THE TRAINING SYSTEM
TRAINING – PRE 1996

10 – 12+ years

Houseman → Senior House Officer → Registrar → Senior Registrar → Consultant
Medical training as of 1996

- PRHO
- SHO
- NTN
- SpR
- CCST
- Consultant

Exam / competition
Workforce planning
The starting point of Modernising Medical Careers

NHS

Unfinished Business

Proposals for reform of the Senior House Officer grade
A report by
Sir Liam Donaldson
Chief Medical Officer for England
A paper for consultation

- Aim – to improve training for ‘Lost Tribe’ of SHOs
- 2-year Foundation Programme
- Rest of SHO training time-limited & programme-based

August 2002
• 2 major proposals backed on:
  – Run-through grade (no competition between SHO & SpR)
  – Possibility of shortened training