

BMA survey of GP trainees' workload and intensity of work

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Background

For the last few years, the Doctors' and Dentists' Review Body (DDRB) has recommended that the GP registrars' supplement be reduced and since 2005/06 the supplement has fallen from 65 per cent to 45 per cent of basic salary.

In recommending these reductions, the DDRB has said that it did not consider GP registrars' working patterns to be as intense as those of junior doctors in hospital training, and subsequently, asked the GP Trainees Subcommittee to submit evidence on the hours and intensity of work undertaken by GP trainees.

To ensure that GP trainees receive a fair level of supplement in the future, a survey of GP and hospital trainees was commissioned to provide evidence to the DDRB on the workload and intensity of GP trainees in their ST1, ST2 or ST3 year of training.

Methodology

On 8 June 2009 a postal survey was sent to 2,402 GP trainees listed on the BMA's membership database as GP registrars or specialty trainees in general practice. As of 31 July 2009 a total of 124 responses were received, an initial response rate of 5.2 per cent. Seven responses were excluded from the analysis as respondents were on a hybrid placement, which included workload in both general practice and hospital and therefore did not fit into the main categories for analysis. A further five responses were removed as respondents were working as a GP locum, GP academic or GP retaine. This leaves a final response rate of 4.7 per cent (112 of 2,402).

The questionnaire was split between those respondents currently on placements in general practice and those currently on hospital based placements. Respondents were asked about the level of intensity of their job and asked to complete a workload activity diary which covered their working hours and activities undertaken over a one week period during their current placement excluding holidays, sabbaticals and non-NHS work.

Guidance on completing the workload diary section of the questionnaire was included to ensure that data collection was consistent across respondents and a copy is included along with the questionnaire in appendix 1.

The workload diary for general practice placements covered a five day period from Monday to Friday; whilst the workload diary for hospital based placements covered a five day period in a seven day week from Monday to Sunday reflecting the potential for weekend working on hospital based placements.

Separate analysis for hours worked and the workload diary have been conducted where possible for full time and part time respondents. Activities that have been left blank by respondents have been assumed not to have been carried out during that one week monitoring period and are not included in the analysis.

Due to the relatively low number of responses from GP ST1 and GP ST2 respondents, these training bands have been combined in the analysis.

Response

70 per cent (78 of 112) of respondents were female and 30 per cent (33 of 112) were male. Half of respondents were in their final year of GP training, one-quarter were in their second year and one-quarter were in their first year of GP training. One in six respondents reported that they are training on a part time basis.

Table 1 – Gender

	Frequency	Per cent
Male	33	29.7
Female	78	70.3
Total	111	100.0
No reply	1	-

Table 2 – What is your year of training?

	Frequency	Per cent
GP ST1	28	25.2
GP ST2	28	25.2
GP ST3	55	49.6
Total	111	100.0
No reply	1	-

Table 3 – What is the name of your Deanery?

	Frequency	Per cent
England	91	84.3
East of England	14	13.0
Kent, Surrey and Sussex	4	3.7
East Midlands	8	7.4
London	12	11.1
Mersey	4	3.7
North Western	7	6.5
Northern	7	6.5
Oxford	4	3.7
Wessex	0	0.0
South West Peninsula	2	1.9
Severn	12	11.1
West Midlands	5	4.6
Yorkshire and the Humber	12	11.1
Scotland	9	8.3
South East Scotland	4	3.7
East Scotland	0	0.0
North Scotland	2	1.9
West Scotland	3	2.8
Wales	6	5.5
Northern Ireland	2	1.9
Total	108	100.0
No reply	4	

Table 4 – What is your GP practice location?

	Frequency	Per cent
Urban	59	52.7
Rural	20	17.9
Mixed	26	23.2
Total	112	100.0
No reply	7	-

Table 5 – Are you currently working full time or part time?

	Frequency	Per cent
Full time – General practice based	60	53.6
Part time – General practice based	15	13.4
Full time – Hospital based	34	30.4
Part time – Hospital based	2	1.8
Total	112	100.0
No reply	1	-

Table 6 – If hospital based, what specialty are you currently working in?

	Frequency	Per cent
Psychiatry	9	24.3
Obstetrics and gynaecology	6	16.2
Emergency medicine	5	13.5
Paediatrics	4	10.8
Geriatrics	3	8.1
Old age psychiatry	2	5.4
Otolaryngology	2	5.4
Endocrinology	1	2.7
Haematology	1	2.7
Oncology	1	2.7
Ophthalmology	1	2.7
Orthopaedics	1	2.7
Respiratory medicine	1	2.7
Total	37	100.0

Key findings

General practice placements

- The average overall reported level of intensity by GP trainee respondents currently on a general practice placement was high. There was no significant difference between ST1/2 and ST3 respondents in the average level of intensity of their job.
- Consultations with patients, making a diagnosis and the communication of a diagnosis to a patient were the aspects of their job that respondents on general practice placements rated as most intense.
- Respondents on placements in general practice rated the overall level of intensity of their last hospital based placement as moderate to high, which was lower than what they reported for their current placement in general practice.
- The most common start time for respondents on placements in general practice was between 8:31am and 9:00am and the most common finishing time was between 5:31pm and 6:00pm.
- The average number of hours worked in the one week monitoring period by respondents working full time on placements in general practice was 40.6 hours per week. There was no significant difference in the average number of hours worked per week between ST1/2 trainees (40.6 hours) and ST3 trainees (40.5 hours) on general practice placements. The number of part time respondents was not sufficient to undertake a separate analysis on average weekly hours worked.
- Full time ST3 respondents reported more unsupervised activities than full time ST1/2 respondents.

Hospital based placements

- The average overall reported level of intensity by GP trainee respondents currently on hospital placements was moderate. The top three most intense aspects of their job whilst on hospital placements reported were on call work, assessment of a patient and communication of a diagnosis to the patient.
- Respondents on hospital placements reported the overall level of intensity of their last placement in general practice as high, which is consistent with that reported by respondents who were currently on placements in general practice.
- The most common start time for respondents on a hospital placement was between 8:31am and 9:00am and the most common finishing time was between 4:00pm and 5:00pm.
- Full time hospital respondents reported an average of 44.8 hours per week work; however, this includes three respondents who reported working on more than five days during the one week monitoring period.

Results – General practice placements

Intensity

Respondents were asked to rate the level of intensity that they associated with various aspects of their role and the overall level of intensity of their role whilst on placements in general practice. The average overall reported level of intensity by respondents on placements in general practice was high (4.0 on a scale of one to five with 1=very low and 5=very high). Table 7 demonstrates that there were small differences in the mean intensity scores of the various aspects of their role across respondents in their ST1/2 and ST3 years of training, but there was no difference in the overall level of intensity of their job.

The top three most intense aspects of their role reported by respondents on placements in general practice were consultation with patients, making a diagnosis and the communication of the diagnosis with the patient. The three least intense aspects of their role were reported as non patient related telephone calls, referrals within the practice team and their out of hours work.

Figures 1 and 2 include the distribution of self reported intensity of individual activities for ST1/2 and ST3 years of training respectively.

Table 8 shows the intensity of respondents' last hospital based placement. ST1/2 and ST3 respondents reported that the intensity of their last hospital based placement was less than the intensity of their last general practice placement. The vast majority of respondents were on a 1A/2B banding during their last hospital placement. (table 9)

Table 7 – In your view, please indicate the level of intensity that you associate with each of the following elements of your job on a scale from 1 to 5 with 1 being very low and 5 being very high?

	Mean intensity score*		
	GP ST1/2	GP ST3	All
Consultation with patient (including physical examination)	4.2	4.2	4.2
Deciding whether a prescription is needed	4.0	3.9	3.9
Making a diagnosis	4.2	4.1	4.1
Communication of a diagnosis to the patient	4.1	4.0	4.1
Development of a treatment or management	4.2	4.1	4.1
Referral to another medic outside the practice	3.8	3.4	3.5
Referral within the practice team	3.2	3.0	3.0
Referral to another health professional outside the practice	3.6	3.4	3.5
Patient related telephone calls	3.9	3.8	3.8
Non patient related telephone calls	3.0	2.8	2.8
Home visits	4.0	4.0	4.0
Length of working day/shift	4.2	4.1	4.1
Out of hours (OOH) work	3.5	3.3	3.4
Overall intensity	4.0	4.0	4.0

*Mean intensity scores are derived from a 5 point scale; 1 = very low, 2 = low, 3 = neutral, 4 = high and 5 = very high.

Figure 1 – In your view, please indicate the level of intensity that you associate with each of the following elements of your job on a scale from 1 to 5 with 1 being very low and 5 being very high? (GP ST1/2; n = 27)

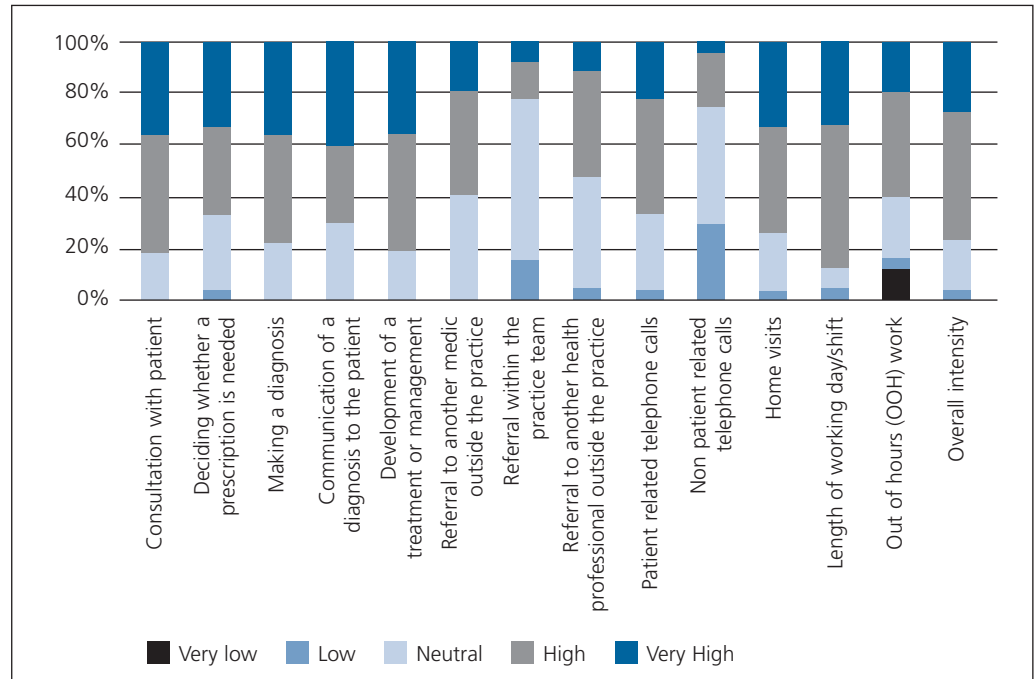


Figure 2 – In your view, please indicate the level of intensity that you associate with each of the following elements of your job on a scale from 1 to 5 with 1 being very low and 5 being very high? (GP ST3; n=55)

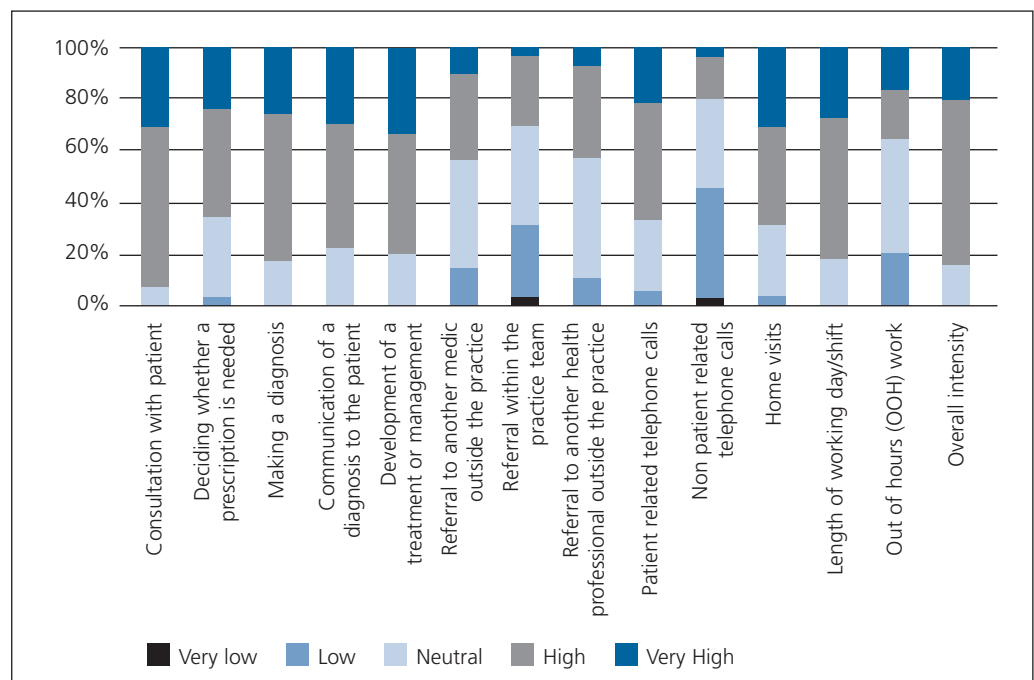


Table 8 – Thinking back on your last hospital based placement (excluding foundation posts), please indicate the overall level of intensity you would associate with your last hospital based placement taking all elements of that role into account

	Frequency (%)		
	GP ST1/2	GP ST3	Combined
Very low	-	2 (3.6)	2
Low	4 (13.8)	6 (10.9)	10
Moderate	9 (31.0)	18 (32.7)	27
High	8 (27.6)	23 (41.8)	31
Very high	8 (27.6)	6 (10.9)	14
Total	29	55	84
Mean intensity score	3.7	3.5	3.5

Table 9 – What was the banding level of your last hospital placement? (full time and part time)

	Frequency (%)		
	GP ST1/2	GP ST3	Combined
None	-	1 (2.0)	1
1C	-	-	-
1B	7 (24.1)	3 (5.9)	10
1A / 2B	17 (58.6)	37 (72.5)	54
2A	4 (13.8)	10 (19.6)	14
3	1 (3.4)	-	1
No reply	27	4	31
Total	29	51	80

Working hours

80.8 per cent (60 of 75) of respondents currently on placements in general practice stated that they worked full time and 19.2 per cent (15 of 75) stated they worked part time.

Respondents were asked about their working hours and the number of hours worked by respondents whilst working in general practice. The most frequently reported start time for respondents was between 8:00am and 8:30am and the most frequently reported finishing time was between 5:31pm and 6:00pm. Responses from respondents about the actual number of hours they worked for each day in the week covered by the workload diary, indicated that over half of the time respondents worked more than nine hours in a day. A further one-quarter of responses indicated that respondents worked between seven and nine hours a day. The longest working day typically occurred on Friday. (tables 10, 11, 12)

Table 10 – Working hours in practice – start time (full time and part time)

Start time	Frequency (per week)	% (per week)
Before 8am	16	4.7
8-8:30am	199	58.9
8:31-9:00am	78	23.1
9:01am >	45	13.3
Total	338	100.0

Table 11 – Working hours in practice – finish time (full time and part time)

Finish time	Frequency (per week)	% (per week)
< 5pm	59	17.5
5-5:30pm	77	22.8
5:31-6pm	107	31.7
6:01-6:30pm	65	19.2
6:31pm >	30	8.9
Total	338	100.0

Table 12 – Number of actual hours worked including time spent on clinical administration and educational activities (full time and part time)

Duration	Total frequency (per week)	% (per week)
Under 5 hours	41	11.9
5 to under 7 hours	32	9.3
7 to under 9 hours	92	26.7
9 hours >	180	52.2
Total	345	100.0

Workload diary

Analysis of full time respondents shows that ST1/2 respondents worked a median of 40.6 hours per week and ST3 trainees worked a median of 40.5 hours per week overall. The average should be interpreted with caution as there was a significant amount of variation in the number of hours worked and small sample sizes. The number of responses for hours worked by part time ST1/2 and ST3 respondents was insufficient to calculate an average number of hours worked per week.

Clinical work

ST3 respondents undertook, on average, more unsupervised clinical work than ST1/2 respondents including more unsupervised consultations with patients and writing prescriptions not reviewed by another GP. As you would expect, ST3 respondents undertook more overall activity and spent a short length of time in patient consultation compared to ST1/2 respondents. (table 13 full time; table 16 part time)

Clinical administration

ST3 respondents spent considerably more time than ST1/2 respondents writing letters and dealing with practice and patient email correspondence. Respondents also indicated taking part in 'other' clinical administration activities including signing repeat prescriptions and reporting blood results, which amounted to between five and 90 minutes per week. (table 14 full time; table 17 part time)

Education

ST3 respondents spent more time in VTS workshops and in preparation for summative assessment, due to the fact that they are further advanced in their training. In contrast, ST1/2 respondents spent more time looking up information on the internet, a possible reflection of the educational needs of trainees during their ST1/2 years. Respondents took part in 'other' educational activities which ranged in duration from 10 to 270 minutes per week and included training at a community hospital and attendance at an ENT clinic. (table 15)

Despite their part time training, respondents appear to still spend a considerable amount of time in educational activities. The amount of time spent by part time respondents in these activities is similar to that of their full time colleagues. A small number of additional activities recorded by respondents included teaching and tutorial preparation which required one to three hours. (table 18)

Table 13 – Clinical activities in general practice – full time

(n=58)	Average per week		
	GP ST1/2	GP ST3	All full time
Number of face-to-face consultations you had with patients <u>unsupervised</u>	84.4	103.1	97.1
Number of face-to-face consultations you had with patients <u>with GP trainer</u>	8.7	9.5	9.3
Length of average consultation (minutes)	14.7min	9.5min	10.8min
Number of times you discussed clinical management of a patient with a trainer or other GP	11.5	6.5	7.7
Number of telephone calls (initiated or received) about patient care	13.3	20.3	18.6
Number of home visits you made <u>alone</u>	5.8	6.3	6.2
Number of home visits you made <u>with GP trainer or other GP</u>	1.7	5.3	3.5
Number of patient referrals you made outside practice team to another medical professional	6.5	8.1	7.7
Number of patient referrals you made outside practice team to other health professional	4.2	4.3	4.3
Number of prescriptions written <u>not</u> reviewed by other GP	54.9	74.6	69.4
Number of prescriptions written reviewed by GP trainer or other GP in practice	2.0	6.7	5.5

Table 14 – Clinical administration activities in general practice – full time

(n=58)	Average per week		
	GP ST1/2	GP ST3	All full time
Writing letters – number	10.6	13.3	12.5
Writing letters – (minutes)	72.5min	93.4 min	88.2 min
Practice meetings – number	6.3	6.9	6.7
Practice meetings – (minutes)	89.8min	92.2 min	91.6min
Practice and patient related emails – number	27.0	27.2	27.2
Practice and patient related emails – (minutes)	58.2min	75.9 min	72.0min
Telephone calls – number	13.5	15.0	14.6
Telephone calls – (minutes)	74.9min	76.0min	75.8min

Table 15 – Education activities in general practice – full time

(n=58)	Average per week		
	GP ST1/2	GP ST3	All full time
Time learning (i.e. personal learning)	180.9min	180.6min	180.7min
VTS workshops	144.6min	200.3min	191.2min
Tutorials	115.4min	117.5min	116.9min
Preparation for summative assessment	72.6min	115.3min	99.3min
Looking up information on the internet	143.0min	104.5min	114.5min

Table 16 – Clinical activities in general practice – all part time

	Average per week
Number of face-to-face consultations you had with patients <u>unsupervised</u>	-
Number of face-to-face consultations you had with patients <u>with GP trainer</u>	4.8
Length of average consultation (minutes)	8.4min
Number of times you discussed clinical management of a patient with a trainer or other GP	9.1
Number of telephone calls (initiated or received) about patient care	11.7
Number of home visits you made <u>alone</u>	3.9
Number of home visits you made <u>with GP trainer or other GP</u>	1.0
Number of patient referrals you made outside practice team to another medical professional	6.1
Number of patient referrals you made outside practice team to other health professional	2.9
Number of prescriptions written <u>not</u> reviewed by other GP	36.4
Number of prescriptions written reviewed by GP trainer or other GP in practice	8.3

Table 17 – Clinical administration activities in general practice – all part time

	Average per week
Writing letters – number	7.5
Writing letters – (minutes)	55.5min
Practice meetings – number	1.9
Practice meetings – (minutes)	111.7min
Practice and patient related emails – number	22.8
Practice and patient related emails – (minutes)	52.5min
Telephone calls – number	10.6
Telephone calls – (minutes)	60.8min

Table 18 – Education activities in general practice – all part time

	Average per week
Time learning (i.e. personal learning)	181.5min
VTS workshops	189.5min
Tutorials	120.2min
Preparation for summative assessment	127.5min
Looking up information on the internet	109.8min

Results – Hospital based placements

Due to a low number of respondents currently on hospital based placements, it was not possible to undertake an analysis on the hours of work and activities worked by full time and part time respondents separately.

Intensity

Respondents were asked to rate the level of intensity that they associated with various aspects of their role and the overall level of intensity on their role whilst on hospital based placements. The average overall reported level of intensity by respondents on placements in general practice was moderate (3.1 on a scale of one to five with 1=very low and 5=very high).

Table 19 shows the mean intensity score for activities within trainees' hospital placements. The intensity of individual activities was variable with non-patient related calls rated as 2.2 out of 5 and on-call work rated 3.6 out of 5. Respondents rated the overall intensity of hospital training as moderate (3.1 out of 5), which was lower than the high mean intensity rating by respondents in general practice (4.0 out of 5).

Over half of respondents on a hospital based placement rated the intensity of their last general practice placement as high, with overall intensity rated as 4 out of 5. This mirrors the overall rating of intensity provided by trainees currently in general practice (see table 7), (table 20).

Table 19 – In your view, please indicate the level of intensity that you associate with each of the following elements of your job on a scale from 1 to 5 with 1 being very low and 5 being very high (full time and part time)

Activity	Mean intensity score
Assessment of a patient (including a physical examination)	3.3
Writing prescriptions	2.5
Making a diagnosis	3.2
Communication of a diagnosis to the patient	3.3
Development of a treatment or management	3.1
Referral to another medic outside your medical team/specialty	2.8
Discharging a patient	2.9
Referral to another health professional	2.7
Patient related telephone calls	2.7
Non patient related telephone calls	2.2
Ward rounds	2.7
On call work	3.6
Overall intensity	3.1

Note: mean intensity scores are derived from a 5 point scale; 1 = very low, 2 = low, 3 = neutral, 4 = high and 5 = very high.

Table 20 – Thinking back on your last general practice placement (excluding foundation posts), please indicate the overall level of intensity you would associate with your last general practice placement taking all elements of that role into account (full time and part time)

	Frequency (%)
Very low	-
Low	-
Moderate	5 (23.8)
High	12 (57.1)
Very high	4 (19.0)
Total	21
Mean intensity score	4.0
Not applicable, last general practice placement was foundation post	14

Working hours

The workload diary for respondents currently in hospital based placements covered work undertaken from Monday to Sunday to ensure that respondents could record any combination of days to constitute a full working week of training. In the event that more than five days have been worked in the diary week, this has been incorporated into the weekly average.

The majority of hospital trainees started their shift between 8:00am and 9:00am and finished their daily shift between 4:00pm and 5:00pm; however one in three hospital based respondents finished their shift after 6:00pm in the evening. (tables 21,22)

Responses by respondents on hospital based placements indicated that half of the time respondents worked between seven and nine hours per day, one-fifth of the time they worked between nine and 11 hours per day and a further one-fifth of the time respondents on hospital placements worked between 11 and 13 hours per day. (table 23)

Table 21 – Start time working hours in hospital (full time and part time)

Start time	Total frequency (per week)	Per cent (per week)
Before 8am	1	0.8
8-8:30am	45	35.4
8:31-9am	74	58.3
9:01am >	7	5.5
Total	127	100.0

Table 22 – Finish time working hours in hospital (full time and part time)

Finish time	Total frequency (per week)	Per cent (per week)
Before 4pm	1	0.9
4-5pm	80	69.6
5:01-6pm	1	0.9
6pm >	33	28.7
Total	115	100.0

Table 23 – Number of actual hours worked including time spent on clinical administration and educational activities (full time and part time)

Duration	Total frequency (per week)	Per cent (per week)
Under 5 hours	3	2.0
5 to under 7 hours	3	2.0
7 to under 9 hours	85	55.5
9 to under 11 hours	26	17.0
11 to under 13 hours	26	17.0
13 hours >	10	6.5
Total	153	100.0

Workload diary

Analysis of full time respondents (n=28) indicated that respondents on hospital based placements worked 44.8 median hours per week. A small sample size and wide variation in the number of hours worked recorded meant that average data is interpreted with caution. It was not possible to determine average weekly hours worked for part time respondents on hospital based placements due to small sample size.

Respondents on hospital based placements reported on average more unsupervised clinical work than supervised clinical work, such as face-to-face assessments made without the presence of a more experienced trainee or consultant and writing new prescriptions that were not reviewed by a senior colleague. The most time intensive activity of clinical administration was attendance at departmental meetings (148.3 average minutes per week) followed by time spent writing letters (126.6 average minutes per week). Most educational training time was spent in VTS or other workshops. Respondents on hospital based placement and placement in general practice spent similar proportions of time in education; however hospital based respondents reported less time in personal learning and researching information on the internet. (tables 24, 25, 26)

Table 24 – Clinical activities in hospital – full time

(n=28)	Average per week
Number of face-to-face assessments you made of patients <u>unsupervised</u>	34.2
Number of face-to-face assessments you made of patients <u>with consultant or senior trainee</u>	19.2
Number of times you discussed clinical management of a patient with a consultant or senior trainee	18.8
Number of telephone calls (initiated or received)	22.1
Number of urgent patient reviews obtained from a senior colleague	5.3
Number of patient referrals you made to another medical professional/department	6.2
Number of patient referrals you made to other health professional	3.8
Number of new prescriptions written <u>not</u> reviewed by consultant or senior trainee	11.5
Number of prescriptions written reviewed by consultant or senior trainee	5.6
Number of treatment/management plans agreed with the patient unsupervised	19.0

Table 25 – Clinical administration activities in hospital – full time

(n=28)	Average per week
Writing letters – number	18.4
Writing letters – (minutes)	126.6min
Department meetings – number	13.2
Department meetings – (minutes)	148.3min
Department and patient related emails – number	14.5
Department and patient related emails – (minutes)	67.3min
Telephone calls – number	23.9
Telephone calls – (minutes)	68.4min

Table 26 – Education activities in hospital – full time

(n=28)	Average per week
Time learning (i.e. personal learning)	122.7min
VTS or other workshops	185.5min
Tutorials	104.2min
Preparation for summative assessment	117.1min
Looking up information on the internet	79.3min

Appendix 1 – Guidelines for completing the daily workload diary

General practice placements

- A. The diary is related to service activities within general practice only, plus any educational activities that are integral to your training or continuing professional development. It is to be used to examine the intensity of your job and hence needs to be an accurate recording of all patient contact/work on behalf of a patient e.g. blood result checks, repeat prescription signing, result telephoning etc.
- B. The diary covers the time spent on GP work and related educational activities during regular or extended practice opening hours, and your out of hours work as part of your training programme.
- C. Please complete the diary for a full working week e.g. Monday to Friday, or Wednesday to Tuesday.
- D. You may find it helpful to keep a record of your activities throughout the day.
- E. Please do not include time spent on activities such as holidays, sabbaticals and non-NHS work.
- F. Clinical administration – please include time spent on dictating/writing letters, practice meetings, practice and patient related emails/telephone calls etc.
- G. Education – please include time spent on your personal learning, e.g. attending VTS or other workshops, reading, searching the internet, reflection, shadowing, tutorials, etc.
- H. Other practice related professional activities – this includes time spent on professional activities e.g. insurance forms, cremation forms, etc.
- I. There are two diary sheets included in this questionnaire which vary slightly according to whether you are currently on a general practice or hospital based placement. Please ensure you complete the relevant diary sheet for your current placement.

Hospital based placements

- A. The diary is related to service activities within your hospital placement only, plus any educational activities that are integral to your training or continuing professional development.
- B. The diary covers the time spent on medical work and related educational activities during your contracted hours or rota.
- C. Please complete the diary for a five day period in your current rota or shift pattern e.g. Monday to Friday, or Wednesday to Sunday.
- D. You may find it helpful to keep a record of your activities throughout the day.
- E. Please do not include time spent on activities such as holidays, sabbaticals and non-NHS work.
- F. Clinical administration – please include time spent on dictating/writing letters, department meetings, department and patient related emails/telephone calls etc.
- G. Education – please include time spent on your personal learning, e.g. attending VTS or other workshops, reading, searching the internet, reflection, shadowing, tutorials, etc.
- H. Other practice related professional activities – this includes time spent on professional activities e.g. insurance forms, cremation forms, etc.
- I. There are two diary sheets included in this questionnaire which vary slightly according to whether you are currently on a general practice or hospital based placement. Please ensure you complete the relevant diary sheet for your current placement.

GP Trainees Workload and Intensity of Work

Section A – About You

1. Are you

- Male
- Female

2. Which of the following best describes your current position?

- GP ST1
- GP ST2
- GP ST3
- Other (please specify):

3. What is the name of your Deanery?

4. Is your current GP practice mainly:

- Urban
- Rural
- Mixed

5. Are you currently working full time or part time?

- Full time
- Part time

6. a. Are you currently in a placement in general practice or hospital based?

- General practice (please go to question 7)
- Hospital based

6. b. If hospital based, what specialty are you currently working in?

(please to go question 9)

Section B – General Practice Placements

7. In your view, please indicate the level of intensity that you associate with each of the following elements of your job on a scale from 1 to 5 with 1 being very low and 5 being very high

	1 Very low	2 Low	3 Moderate	4 High	5 Very high
Consultation with patient (including physical examination)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deciding whether a prescription is needed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Making a diagnosis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication of a diagnosis to the patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Development of a treatment or management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referral to another medic outside the practice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referral within the practice team	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referral to another health professional outside the practice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patient related telephone calls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non patient related telephone calls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Home visits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Length of working day/shift	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Out of hours (OOH) work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. a. Thinking back on your last hospital based placement (excluding foundation posts), please indicate the overall level of intensity you would associate with your last hospital based placement taking all elements of that role into account

- Very low
- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Very high

Not applicable, last hospital placement was foundation post

8. b What was the banding level of your last hospital placement?

- None
- 1C
- 1B
- 1A / 2B
- 2A
- 3

Guidelines for completing the daily diary

- A. The diary is related to service activities within general practice only, plus any educational activities that are integral to your training or continuing professional development. It is to be used to examine the intensity of your job and hence needs to be an accurate recording of all patient contact/work on behalf of a patient e.g. blood result checks, repeat prescription signing, result telephoning etc.
- B. The diary covers the time spent on GP work and related educational activities during regular or extended practice opening hours, and your out of hours work as part of your training programme.
- C. Please complete the diary for a full working week e.g. Monday to Friday, or Wednesday to Tuesday.
- D. You may find it helpful to keep a record of your activities throughout the day.
- E. Please do not include time spend on activities such as holidays, sabbaticals and non-NHS work.
- F. Clinical administration – please include time spend on dictating/writing letters, practice meetings, practice and patient related emails/telephone calls etc.
- G. Education – please include time spent on your personal learning, e.g. attending VTS or other workshops, reading, searching the internet, reflection, shadowing, tutorials, etc.
- H. Other practice related professional activities – this includes times spent on professional activities e.g. insurance forms, cremation forms, etc.
- I. There are two diary sheets included in this questionnaire which vary slightly according to whether you are currently on a general practice or hospital based placement. Please ensure you complete the relevant diary sheet for your current placement.

If you have any questions about completing the questionnaire or diaries please contact Amanda Downing on **020 7383 6459** or **adowning@bma.org.uk**.

Working hours in general practice

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hours of work in practice (e.g. 8am to 5pm)					
Number of actual hours worked including time spent on clinical administration and education activities					

Activities in general practice

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Clinical work					
(number or length of time spent)					
Number of face-to-face consultations you had with patients unsupervised					
Number of face-to-face consultations you had with patients with GP trainer					
Length of average consultation (minutes)					
Number of times you discussed clinical management of a patient with a trainer or other GP					
Number of telephone calls (initiated or received) about patient care					
Number of home visits you made alone					
Number of home visits you made with GP trainer or other GP					
Number of patient referrals you made outside practice team to another medical professional					
Number of patient referrals you made outside practice team to other health professional					
Number of prescriptions written not reviewed by other GP					
Number of prescriptions written reviewed by GP trainer or other GP in practice					
Clinical administration (number of and length of time spent)					
Writing letters (number)					
(time spent in minutes)					
Practice meetings (number)					
(time spent in minutes)					
Practice and patient related emails (number)					
(time spent in minutes)					
Telephone calls (number)					
(time spent in minutes)					
Other, please specify below					
Education (length of time)					
Time learning (i.e. personal learning)					
VTS workshops					
Tutorials					
Preparation for summative assessment					
Looking up information on the internet					
Other, please specify below					

If you wish to be entered into a prize draw for one of three free places (worth £95-£155 each) at this year's conference 'Get Ahead: The Essential GP Trainee Skills Day', which will be held at BMA House in London on Friday 10 July 2009, please provide your contact details below:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

Email address _____

Section C – Hospital Based Placements

9. In your view, please indicate the level of intensity that you associate with each of the following elements of your job

	1 Very low	2 Low	3 Moderate	4 High	5 Very high
Assessment of a patient (including a physical examination)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Writing prescriptions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Making a diagnosis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication of a diagnosis to the patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Development of a treatment or management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referral to another medic outside your medical team / specialty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharging a patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referral to another health professional	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patient related telephone calls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non patient related telephone calls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ward rounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On call work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Thinking back to your last general practice placement (excluding foundation posts), please indicate the overall level of intensity you would associate with your last general practice placement taking all elements of that role into account

- Very low
- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Very high

Not applicable, last general practice placement was foundation post

Guidelines for completing the daily diary

- A. The diary related to service activities within your hospital placement only, plus any educational activities that are integral to your training or continuing professional development
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- H. Other practice related professional activities – this includes times spent on professional activities e.g. insurance forms, cremation forms, etc.
- I. There are two diary sheets included in this questionnaire which vary slightly according to whether you are currently on a general practice or hospital based placement. Please ensure you complete the relevant diary sheet for your current placement.

If you have any questions about completing the questionnaire or diaries please contact Amanda Downing on **020 7383 6459** or **adowning@bma.org.uk**.

Working hours in hospital

	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Hours of work (e.g. 8am to 5pm)							
Number of actual hours worked including time spent on clinical administration and education activities							

Activities in hospital

	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Number of face-to-face assessments you made of patients unsupervised							
Number of face-to-face assessments you made of patients with consultant or senior trainee							
Number of times you discussed clinical management of a patient with a consultant or senior trainee							
Number of telephone calls (initiated or received)							
Number of urgent patient reviews obtained from a senior colleague							
Number of patient referrals you made to another medical professional/department							
Number of patient referrals you made to other health professional							
Number of new prescriptions written not reviewed by consultant or senior trainee							
Number of prescriptions written reviewed by consultant or senior trainee							
Number of treatment/management plans agreed with the patient unsupervised							
Clinical administration (number and length of time spent)							
Writing letters (number)							
(time spent minutes)							
Department meetings (number)							
(time spent minutes)							
Department and patient related emails (number)							
(time spent minutes)							
Telephone calls (number)							
(time spent minutes)							
Other, please specify below							
Education (length of time spent)							
Time learning (i.e. personal learning)							
VTS or other workshops							
Tutorials							
Preparation for summative assessment							
Looking up information on the internet							
Other, please specify below							

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