

## **Medical Student Report – Gwent NHS Trust**

### **1. Introduction**

This report was produced from e-mails received from medical students who have been on placement at the trust during last academic year, and the current academic year. Input was requested via a note posted on Blackboard and through the academic reps from years 3, 4 and 5.

At the meeting in February 2004 an oral student report was given. Without a written report, it is difficult to follow up on issues raised at the meeting, except for points noted in the minutes of the student report, and elsewhere in the minutes.

### **2. Royal Gwent – Newport**

#### **2.1 Academic**

Students enjoyed being welcomed at the start of their blocks, and said that the packs that they were given were helpful, although a couple found the timetables a bit confusing. Students found the staff in the undergraduate department to be friendly and welcoming.

*Paediatric block*- Students commented that the teaching given was very good, and the staff were approachable.

*Surgery block* – Students commented that the teaching given was good, very hands on, with lots of timetabled sessions. Doctors had enough time to teach on the wards, students found that them to be really approachable. Students found that they gained a lot from this block.

*Medical blocks* – Students were generally disappointed with the quantity and quality of teaching in this block. However the students did benefit from the fortnightly sessions with a consultant (Dr Petheram) as this gave them a chance to present a case. Students found that other teaching was far too dependant on busy junior doctors, who often couldn't find the time to teach.

*Rheumatology and Orthopaedics* – Students reported that the teaching was excellent, and that they were made to feel welcome by all staff, not just the doctors. When students had to spend time at other sites, taxis were provided by the undergraduate department.

#### **2.2 Facilities**

*Computers* – Students said that although there were some PCs in the library they often didn't get chance to use them.

*Food* – Students found that the canteen was very good, and reasonably priced. However some students commented that it was a bit expensive for everyday use and a few requested free lunches as offered at other trusts.

*Common room* – the students liked having a common room, but complained that it was a bit of a walk from most clinical areas. Some students said that they hardly used the student common room, but tended to use the Doctors' Mess instead. Students also commented that the lockers provided were useful, but too small for much more than just valuables. Students requested that cups be made available in the kitchen area of the common room.

*Library* – Students commented that the staff were helpful.

*Parking* – This was raised as an issue by many students. Some students received a permit, but said that they were unsure where it was valid. A few students said that they had ended up driving to and from the placement as the bus service provided tended to be unreliable.

### **2.3 Overall**

Students mostly gave positive reports of their placement experience at the Royal Gwent. The exception was for students on the medical block in year three, whose feedback was less positive. A few students commented that they would work at the Royal Gwent in the future.

## **3. Nevill Hall – Abergavenny**

### **3.1 Academic**

The students reported that they were welcomed at the start of the block; however some students found that the introduction was all they saw of the undergraduate staff, and would have preferred a bit more follow up during the placement.

*Obstetrics and Gynaecology* – students found that the block lacked structure, and there was little organised teaching. Staff were keen to teach when they had time, but students found that they weren't sure what they needed to cover.

### **3.2 Facilities**

*Accommodation* – Students found that they were split between two accommodation blocks, and would have preferred to all be together in one block. The accommodation was basic but reasonable.

*Library and computers* – Students said that they appreciated having access to a computer via the library, although some students found that they couldn't always access the computer in the evening.

### **3.3 Overall**

For the most part students enjoyed their placements at Nevill Hall. Students found the lack of a clear timetable frustrating, and on occasion this meant that students didn't get as much out of the block as they would have liked.

## **4. Caerphilly Miners – Caerphilly**

Only a small amount of feedback was received for this hospital, hence the brief report. Students enjoyed the placement, and found the clinical staff keen to teach.

**Jenny Longbottom**

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**January 2005**