

Buddy Scheme in Clinical Neurophysiology

The Buddy Scheme in Clinical Neurophysiology was set up in January 2023 by the ATCN to provide broader support to trainees in the specialty.

Aims

The Buddy Scheme aims to provide an additional and informal source of support to trainees in any matters they wish to discuss. It would not represent a formal training relationship but could allow for peer-level advice in areas such as career development, specialist interests, new techniques, research and collaboration. It would also provide an additional [sounding board] to confidentially discuss any concerns or challenges in the workplace. The relationship between buddies can be tailored by the participants to suit their needs. For instance, it may be possible to arrange a visit to each other's departments and gain extra experience in specialist techniques. A regular discourse is encouraged to maintain awareness of changing needs and departmental pressures.

Eligibility

Buddies are trainees (in run-through or non-run-through training programmes, including fellowships) in Clinical Neurophysiology within the UK. They do not hold a CCT or equivalent in the specialty (although, they can hold a CCT in a different specialty). Preferences (e.g. research interests and geographical regions) will be taken into account as part of the pairing.

A junior trainee will be paired with a senior trainee in a different NHS Trust with approximately two-year difference between them. Typically, the pair will remain unchanged for one to two years. However, buddies can swap between themselves as well as change their preferences and interests throughout their training programmes.

How to apply

If you would like more information about the buddy scheme or if you are interested in joining it then please email info.atcn@gmail.com with "Buddy Scheme" in the subject line.