



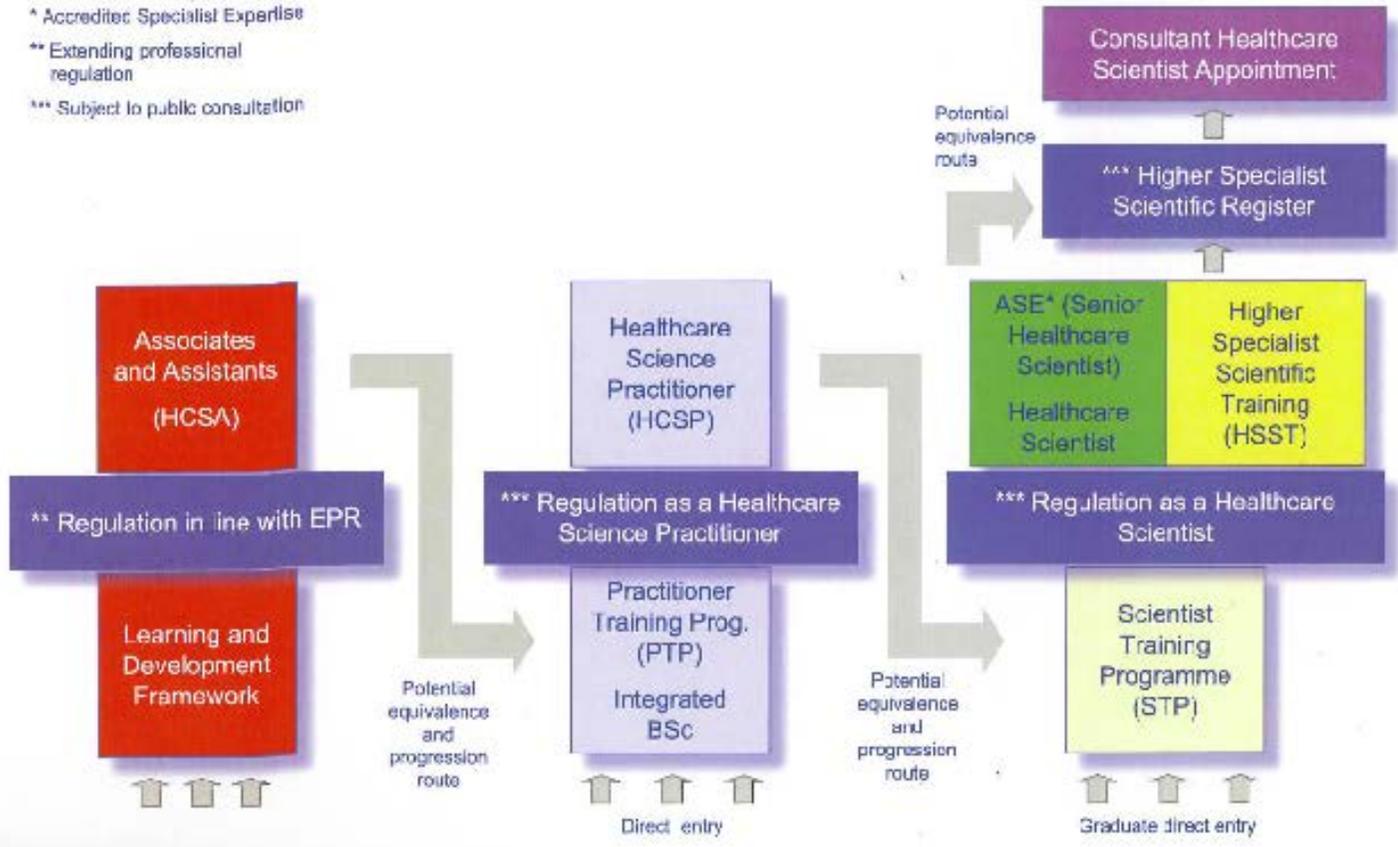
I want to be a Clinical Scientist!

An update

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Modernising Scientific Careers: Career and Training Pathways

- * Accredited Specialist Expertise
- ** Extending professional regulation
- *** Subject to public consultation



HCPC – protected titles

- No new protected titles
- Won't retrospectively approve programmes
- Only state registered titles are **BMS** and **Clinical Scientist**
- Output of PTP programme is equivalent to output of current coterminous BMS programmes – proposal to have output of PTP as BMS, administered by IBMS.
- Output of STP is NOT equivalent to output of current CS training programmes – there is a gap! Current discussions on how to bridge this gap in Academy and ACS – much discussion, now moving to joint assessment

What are the career opportunities?

Development of **Consultant Clinical Scientist** led Transfusion Services

Develop **HSST programmes in Transfusion Science** that are accepted by RCPATH

Encourage existing Senior BMS staff to transfer across onto HSST Programmes using Equivalence routes

Senior BMS staff need to become **Clinical Scientists** to get onto HSST Programmes

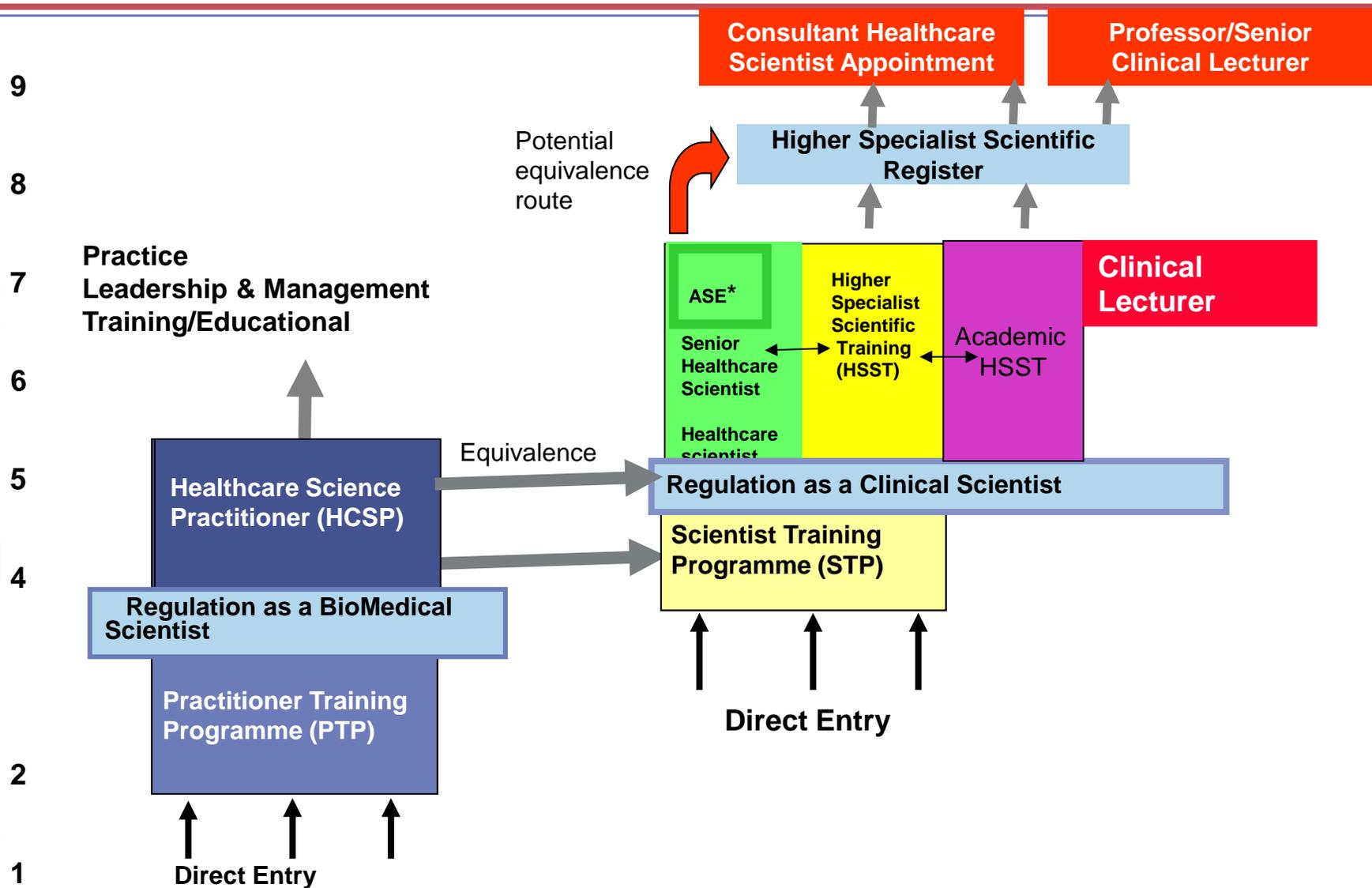
Encourage scientific staff to undertake research – apply for fellowships – get Ph.D. and post-doctoral funding

Improve/extend the Transfusion Science content of STP

Supported by NHSBT (in RCI Strategy) and BBTS

Figure 1. The MSC Model: Pathways for healthcare science practitioners and healthcare scientists

Career Framework Stage



*Accredited Specialist Expertise

SIZE OF BOXES NOT PROPORTIONAL TO NUMBERS

Routes To Clinical Scientist Registration in Blood Transfusion

- 1. Academy of Healthcare Science (AHCS) Certificate of attainment** on completion of an approved STP course – suitable for new entrants. Broad training over 3 years including an M.Sc and workplace training.
- 2. AHCS Certificate of Equivalence** – for existing staff to prove that they have skills and knowledge equivalent to those who have completed an STP course
- 3. Association of Clinical Scientists (ACS) Certificate of attainment** via route 2 – for existing staff with 6 years relevant experience, three of which must have been in a supervised Clinical Scientist role.

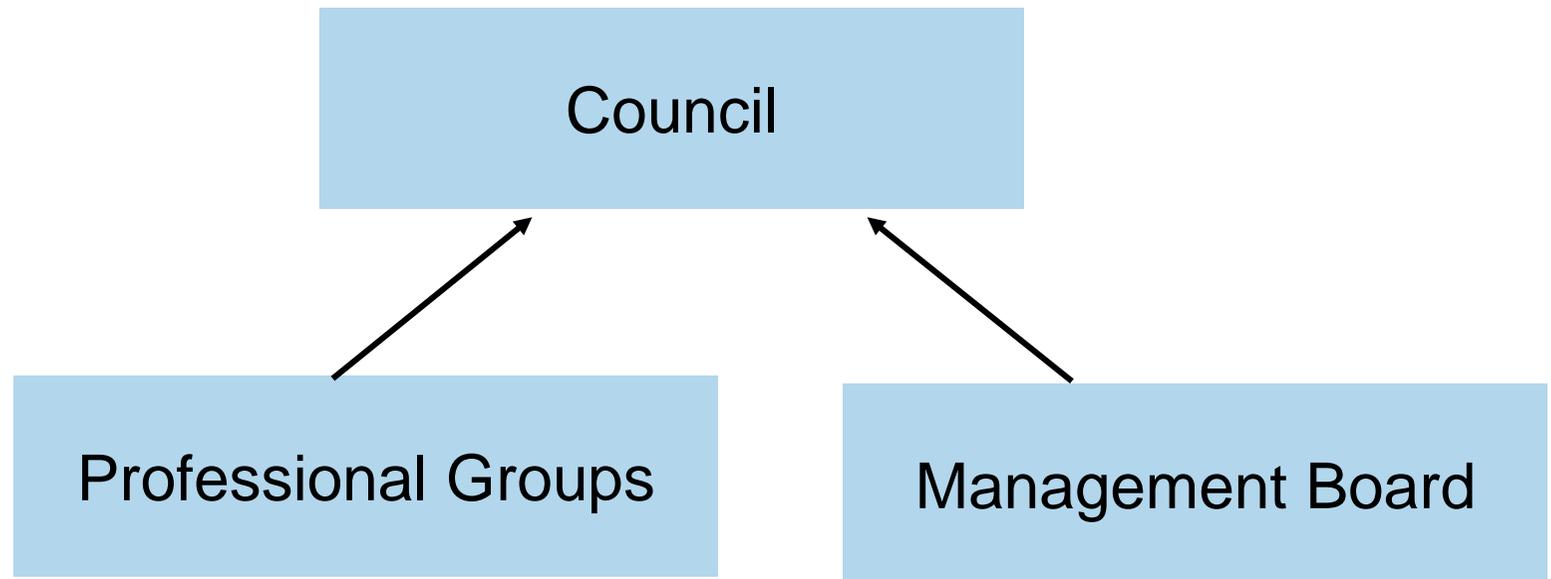
Remit:

- **Define high quality education and training standards across the UK healthcare science workforce and improve patient outcomes by ensuring that the standards are promulgated and met**
- **Enable effective professional engagement in the ongoing development and review of national curricula for the UK healthcare science workforce, across the career framework**

Main activities:

- **Regulation/registration**
- **Equivalence**
- **Education & training**
- **Professional partnerships “one voice”**

MSC New Awarding Body: Academy for Healthcare Science



MSC New Awarding Body: Academy for Healthcare Science

**Chair – Sir Duncan Nichol
Chief Executive – Janet Monkman**

Non-Executive Directors:

**Life Sciences – John Stevens
Physiological Sciences – Kerry Tinkler
Physics & Medical Engineering - Anthony Fisher**

Professional Groups

- Cardiac, vascular and sleep sciences
- Neurosensory sciences
- Genetics
- **Blood Sciences**
- Cellular Sciences
- Infection Sciences
- Medical Physics
- Clinical Engineering
- GI physiology and urodynamics
- Maxillo facial prosthetics and clinical photography

Professional Groups:

Each specialist professional body will be expected to nominate a representative to sit on the relevant professional group

Professional body endorsement is required so that the individual can speak on behalf of their professional organisation

Blood Science:

- **Clinical Biochemistry**
- **Haematology/Blood Transfusion**
- **Immunology**
- **H&I**

BBTS representative – Marion Scott

IBMS representative – Melanie Watson

Professional Groups:

- Represent the needs, interests and views of HCS professionals, students and trainees
- Inform the HCS workforce of Academy Board Decisions
- Promote the involvement of HCS workforce in Academy activities
- Act as a focus for issues of education, training, professional development and career progression
- Advise on curriculum updates, development and review
- Provide input on
 - Professional assessment and certification
 - **Equivalence**
 - Regulation
 - Accreditation of education programmes and training
 - Career framework 1-4
 - Higher Specialist Scientific Training

AHCS Equivalence - Clinical Scientist

Important for existing staff – this is how to join the new pathway without having to start again!

AHCS - No formal requirement for length of experience, but needs to demonstrate equivalence to STP outcomes – min 3 years including an M.Sc. or equivalent

AHCS Professional Groups have agreed that practical rotations in other depts will not be required to prove equivalence to those who have come through STP.

Access to ASE/HSST for Senior BMS staff:

- **Need to become Clinical Scientists**
- **M.Sc. + lab and clinical experience**
- **IBMS Higher and Advanced Specialist Diplomas**

Equivalence Clinical Scientist Through AHCS

Costs £280

- 1. Apply to AHCS, fill in form with 1000 word summary of career. AHCS will check to see if you are eligible.**

- 2. Assemble Portfolio within six months:**
 - CV
 - Evidence of demonstration of competences, mapped against Good Scientific Practice
 - Example on web-site

- 3. Submit Portfolio and fee**
 - AHCS will send to specialist assessors and advise if there are any problems with the portfolio.
 - If it is partially deficient, you may amend and resubmit

- 4. Attend Interview**
 - Full Equivalence – certificate for HCPC
 - Partial Equivalence – can resubmit evidence for parts failed, and have a further interview
 - Not Equivalent – need to start again!

Equivalence through AHCS

First Life Sciences Interviews held 10th September 2014 – 4 applicants in Haematology and Blood Transfusion, all senior BMS

**Lay Assessor Chair
Clinical Scientist
BioMedical Scientist**

35 mins to 1h 15 mins!

5 domains of Good Scientific Practice, 12 initial questions + follow up

1. Professional Practice	2 questions	generic
2. Scientific Practice	3 questions	discipline specific
3. Clinical Practice	3 questions	discipline specific
4. Research, Development and Innovation	2 questions	generic
5. Clinical Leadership	2 questions	generic

**Assessing Equivalence to STP – breadth is an issue!
Clinical Practice and R&D – also deficient for some.**

Issues:

FUNDING!!

- **Start-up money from DH, but aim to be independent of DH**
- **Will only have professional credibility if independent of DH**

How to generate income?

- **From sales of services (v. expensive for registrants!)**
- **Membership fees – individual or professional bodies? (why should they join!)**

Route One

Minimum of three years on an accredited course, incorporating an M.Sc. – not currently open in transfusion science

Route Two

Minimum of 6 years – Relevant Ph.D. counts as three years, then three years in employment, supervised by a Clinical Scientist/ Medic, to demonstrate relevant scientific competencies. Blood transfusion is recognised as a sub-modality.

Cost : BBTS member £215, non-member £300

ACS route two may offer the best way of a specialised transfusion scientist to get registration as a Clinical Scientist – not proving equivalence to the broad STP curriculum – but demonstrating specialist knowledge

- **Currently the only RCPPath exam route is Haematology, with blood transfusion as a small part. There are no taught courses for scientists. An HSST curriculum has been developed, but it is still based on haematology**
- **Develop Blood Transfusion as an option, which could be aligned with Haematology or H&I. Joint working group at RCPPath between Transfusion and H&I**
- **Routes for Stem Cells and Tissue Banking are required – within Transfusion**
- **Dialogue with RCPPath and AoMRC to ensure suitable routes for all to Consultant status – modalities are under discussion**

Accredited Specialist Expertise

???

No firm proposals yet

Professional bodies asked for proposals

- **BBTS needs to have a mechanism for nominating Assessors/Representatives to the Academy, the School and RCPATH**
- **BBTS reps on Academy, School and RCPATH need to be on PAEC**
- **BBTS/SNBTS/University of Edinburgh and the University of Bristol M.Sc. Specialist Courses in Transfusion & Transplantation need to be incorporated into the MSC training programmes - ?ASE.**
- **BBTS certificate needs to be incorporated as part of the MSC training programmes. It will need HEI accreditation.**
- **Strengthen BBTS links with BSH, BSHI and BATB to get a stronger unified approach on education and training matters**
- **BBTS need to take a view on what roles should be done by the different grades**

Further information

Royal College of Pathology

www.rcpath.org

Academy for Healthcare Science

www.academyforhealthcarescience.co.uk

National School for Healthcare Science

www.nshcs.org.uk

British Blood Transfusion Society

www.bbts.org.uk

Association of Clinical Scientists

www.assclnsci.org

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