



# Recommended workload for retainer sessions

Version :

Date : Posted in July 2009



### **Recommended workload for Retainer Sessions**

Retainer sessions normally should last 3.5 hours. Workload content may vary from practice to practice depending on individual practice workload.

Normally, the Retainer Advisers recommend that a session should consist of the following:

Either:

A 2 and a half hour surgery followed by paperwork

Or

A 2 hour surgery followed by a house call + paperwork

Involvement in GMS contract work should be encouraged but not to the detriment of general clinical work. Likewise, while maintenance of individual skills should be encouraged eg minor surgery, Implanon insertions - this should be balanced with provision of GMS services.

Retainers should be encouraged to participate in "on call" sessions where feasible, especially towards the end of their time on the scheme. An adjustment of their session length could be accommodated to facilitate this eg. A 4 session retainer can only work 14 hrs per week but may agree with the practice to undertake 1 long day and 1 short day to allow participation in the on call rota. This would obviously have to be acceptable to both practice and retainer.

Mentoring sessions should be undertaken within the retainer sessions.

The ultimate aim is for the retainer to maintain his/her skills in a protected, educationally supportive environment so that they can return to more substantive general practice in due course.

AG 3/09