

Research by trainees is predominantly undertaken in teaching hospitals. Only 3% of all the research came from trainees in non-teaching hospitals.

Table I provides an indicator of regional productivity. The three sources of publications are combined to give information on total production expressed as a percentage by each of the areas. Expressing research productivity per unit teaching hospital indicates that the teaching hospitals in the North West are the most productive. Each teaching hospital producing 8.5% of the research published during the study. The teaching hospital in East Anglia was the least productive.

### Comment

There are certain deficiencies in our methodology. In order to accurately ascertain trends in research productivity a year may be too short a time. The selection of three sources of publications will exclude work published in other journals during the year studied.

Our study shows significant regional variation in research productivity among trainee psychiatrists.

The most productive division is the North West. The least productive division is Scotland. It is most

surprising that East Anglia produced no published research in the sources analysed during this audit.

It is not surprising that London with the Maudsley and several teaching hospital based rotations is the most productive area. Of greater interest is the North West Division. This division has two teaching hospitals but has produced an equal amount of research as the Scottish, Welsh and South Western divisions combined with three times as many teaching hospitals. What are the factors contributing to the high level of productivity in the North West?

### Conclusion

There is a wide variation in the production of research by trainees in psychiatry in the United Kingdom. Further work needs to be carried out to identify those factors which encourage trainees to successfully complete research.

### Reference

- JUNAIID, O. & STAINES, J. (1990) Career progression in psychiatry: perceptions and realities. *Psychiatric Bulletin*, 14, 484-486.

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