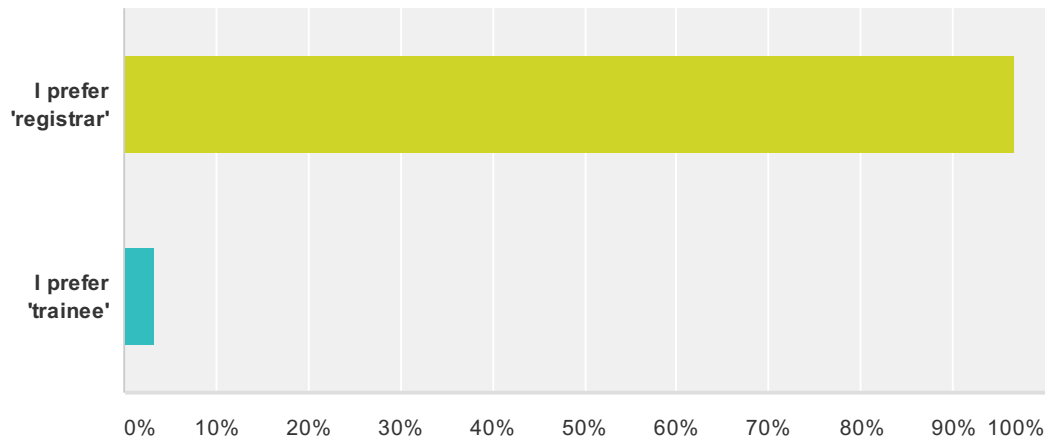


Abandon the term 'trainee' and replace with 'registrar'

Q1 Perhaps JRCPTB might use the term 'registrar' and abandon 'trainee' as this has adverse connotations?

Answered: 339 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
I prefer 'registrar'	96.76% 328
I prefer 'trainee'	3.24% 11
Total	339

#	Comments welcome	Date
1	Trainee confuses people including patients and other health professionals who think you're a medical student, and demeans doctors, many of whom have several postgraduate degrees and qualifications, and years of experience.	7/3/2014 3:41 AM
2	The use of the word trainee is confusing for patients who assume I am a medical student. We have worked hard at University and done post graduate professional qualifications and deserve some recognition for this.	7/2/2014 3:02 PM
3	Trainee is demeaning given the level of service provision provided by registrars (ST3 and above). In fact bring back JHO and SHO while you're at it.	7/2/2014 9:39 AM
4	Trainee is vague and gives no indication of seniority or experience.	7/2/2014 6:57 AM
5	A registrar is actually a pretty experienced doctor. Trainee denigrates this experience.	7/2/2014 6:54 AM
6	But only if used to distinguish senior from junior trainees, otherwise the term is meaningless. A "registrar" should mean someone who has completed core training and passed a relevant postgraduate exam, and thus should be usefully labelled as having more experience than junior colleagues whose knowledge has not been tested since finals. Using the term "specialty registrar" to refer to the equivalents of the old SHO grade devalues the term "registrar".	7/2/2014 5:04 AM
7	trainee is too generic and applies to all training grades. registrar gives an indication of level of seniority, is understood by doctors, allied health professionals and patients, and is the appropriate term for an experienced doctor who has not yet completed training in their chosen field.	7/2/2014 4:56 AM
8	Completely support this as a consultant as I believe it is important for patients and non-medical personnel to understand the considerable training that has occurred in order to qualify as a doctor. Five years at medical school is the only time the phrase medical trainee should be used. After that junior doctor and registrar should be well recognised. They are professionals in their own right with considerable knowledge and experience which will be built upon further as they specialise.	7/2/2014 4:05 AM
9	I am a trained autonomous professional with ongoing learning needs and expect to be to referred to as such. a person in an office with no postgraduate qualifications should not be able to be condescending.	7/2/2014 3:55 AM

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10	Does it matter? Really??	7/2/2014 3:42 AM
11	or "doctor" but I dislike the term "trainee" or "trainee doctor"	7/2/2014 2:22 AM
12	Junior Reg, then Reg, then Senior reg. Easy to grasp, indicates medically qualified and gaining further qualifications. Not a plumber/carpenter in training, or apprentice as this would be better titled. Trainee is far too non-specific.	7/2/2014 2:21 AM
13	Trainee will always put patients in mind of a medical student; not appropriate 10 years plus after graduation.	7/2/2014 12:28 AM
14	Potential cause for concern for patients I anaesthetise on a solo list if done by a "trainee", as understood in the conventional sense.	7/1/2014 11:54 PM
15	trainee is confusing for patients... It makes them think you are not a qualified doctor.	7/1/2014 10:58 PM
16	Currently my name badge doesn't even state I'm a doctor. Most patients presume I'm not even qualified and are some kind of senior medical student.	7/1/2014 10:54 PM
17	I would also be happy to be referred to in official documentation as "Surgeon-in-training" - there was some debate over this in the 70's when deciding what to call the Association of Surgeons in Training	7/1/2014 10:10 PM
18	Bring back house officer, senior house officer etc too. You wouldnt ever get to talk to a 'trainee' in carphone warehouse. They have realised that titles matter.	7/1/2014 5:51 PM
19	Trainee is not an appropriate term for someone in their thirties who had been through half a decade of university education and is paid a considerable sum of money!	7/1/2014 3:26 PM
20	"Trainee" confuses patients, who reasonably enough are wary of being treated by someone whose job title makes him or her indistinguishable from a medical student.	7/1/2014 3:23 PM
21	Other professions do not use trainee; it confuses patients and undermines confidence. I have seen it cause unnecessary complaints.	7/1/2014 3:23 PM
22	Ridiculous political correctness and always was. Working in Canada at the moment. 3 grades: medical student = someone not yet trained. Resident = trained doctor specializing. Attending = doctor finished specializing. Simple. Unambiguous. All punters know exactly what they're dealing with.	7/1/2014 3:05 PM
23	When introduced as a trainee, as I am fairly "youthful" looking, patients assume I am a medical student and ask me when I will qualify. (I am a paediatric ST4)	7/1/2014 2:16 PM
24	Trainee is degrading and impossible to distinguish from medical student for most patients.	7/1/2014 2:16 PM
25	Trainee sounds like work experience /unqualified level, not doctor with often years of experience and postgrad exams etc.all part of dumbing down/keeping docs under the thumb	7/1/2014 2:13 PM
26	The return of registrar would be most welcome, as would the proper title on the name badges.	7/1/2014 2:11 PM
27	These are fully qualified doctors we are talking about. Professionalism being stripped away.	7/1/2014 1:51 PM
28	Trainee suggests one is a medical student. Registrar suggests a fully qualified professional.	7/1/2014 1:50 PM
29	May be a trainee, but an advanced trainee. Should be distinguished.	7/1/2014 1:45 PM
30	Trainee is derogatory and shows no differentiation between a pre-reg FY1 and a final year ST7/8.	7/1/2014 1:30 PM
31	I think the term trainee detracts from the grade of doctor it refers to. I am very aware that I am still a junior doctor as a registrar and am aware of my limitations but I have been qualified for 11 years. For all junior doctors to be clumped together as 'trainees' from f1 to St7 I think is confusing for patients and non medical staff. I luckily currently work in a department where I am referred to as the registrar. It is a title I am proud of and worked hard to achieve. My non medical family members also preferred the old titles as they felt they knew who they were dealing with and knew that registrar was more senior than the houseman or senior houseman.	7/1/2014 1:27 PM
32	Everyone thinks a trainee is a medical student. I'm not a medical student, and I haven't been qualified for fourteen years in order to be patronised by this passive-aggressive, belittling language. The use of the term "trainee" has coincided with a serious diminution of the role of the SpR grade in medical practice. I can't imply causation, but I do think that a switch back to being addressed as a "grown-up" by my peers, my nursing colleagues and the hospital administration would go a long way to improving things.	7/1/2014 1:13 PM

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33	Trainee is generally understood by other doctors, but not well recognised in the wider healthcare team, or by patients/relatives. I had to spend a while yesterday explaining to a student nurse that whilst I am a trainee, I have been a qualified doctor for some time. If colleagues struggle, what chance do patients have? I don't feel that using 'trainee' rather than 'registrar' adds anything to helping people understand who you are - quite the opposite in my experience.	7/1/2014 1:06 PM
34	The term "Trainee" is derogatory and inappropriate.	7/1/2014 1:02 PM
35	Whats the beef?	7/1/2014 1:01 PM
36	The term 'trainee' is demeaning and undermines one of the fundamental tenets of good patient care: the doctor-patient relationship. It is yet another erosion in the general public's trust in doctors, and is frankly insulting to hear from faceless administrators at all manner of institutions, most egregiously the Royal Colleges.	7/1/2014 12:55 PM
37	The term trainee makes patients feel we are still at university and they prefer to see a "real doctor".	7/1/2014 12:50 PM
38	I have experienced many occasions where the term "trainee" had led to patients (and other health care professionals!) to arrive at a conclusion that the doctor providing assessment and treatment is a medical student.	7/1/2014 12:50 PM
39	A registrar is a senior trainee - vastly increased levels of experience compared to an FY1 - as such a term is needed that separates the two, preferably one that's already well known....	7/1/2014 12:49 PM
40	The nurses think that 'trainees' are medical students.	7/1/2014 12:48 PM
41	Trainee Has significant connotations of not knowing what they are doing. This is not the case.	7/1/2014 12:40 PM
42	As i'm sure others will have said; trainee is a term which suggests no qualification rather than the degree in medicine and the mrcXXX. We should be strive for parity with other professions such as nursing and pharmacy where the basic degree is valued as is the post graduate work. I challenge anyone who has done any out of hours work to introduce themselves to the mother of a sick child as a trainee. no-one would ever do it. its not ok to be a trainee in the daytime and a doctor at night.	7/1/2014 12:30 PM
43	I stick to the term 'registrar' or 'specialty registrar' (I accept the progression from specialIST registrar). I am 37 years old, have been in undergraduate or postgraduate education for 18 years, am fully capable of making many independent decisions (whilst also consulting a consultant about plenty of other decisions, where necessary), and think the term trainee is ludicrous. It undermines the doctor-patient relationship, and the NHS is not yet (and unlikely to be for a long time) in a position where it offers consultant only service... It seems to be mostly deanery people who are happy to use this term, we rarely hear it used in the hospital.	7/1/2014 12:26 PM
44	Trainee makes us sound very junior when often we are highly qualified individuals with significant responsibility. It makes us sound like student doctors!	7/1/2014 12:24 PM
45	Patients often interpret trainee as medical student.	7/1/2014 12:24 PM
46	I find the term trainee makes people think I am not a qualified doctor . I was consenting patients for surgery once (on a new placement) when a nurse asked me to leave as she thought i was a student as my badge said so..... It said specialist trainee doctor.	7/1/2014 12:20 PM
47	"Trainee" is demeaning. How many band 5 nurses would be happy about being called a "trainee nurse"? "Trainee podiatrist"? "Trainee physiotherapist"? Sounds like a bloody student. STOP IT!!	7/1/2014 12:02 PM
48	Registrar is and always has been an experienced nearly consultant. The suits don't like it as they prefer to keep doctors in their place whilst confusing the public	7/1/2014 12:02 PM
49	I am fed up with patients thinking that I am a medical or nursing student rather than someone with a number of years of post graduate experience. Patients always want to know what FT/CT/CMT/CST/ST stands for and always look apprehensive when you then want to do something to them "will I have a qualified doctor operate on me rather than a student?". It particularly does not help that I am female and young looking for my age.	7/1/2014 11:52 AM
50	We still need to distinguish between core and higher grades though as there can be some confusion between 'registrar' and the recent SpR grade.	7/1/2014 11:49 AM
51	Registrar is recognised by the patients and at least has an air of being just a bit junior to the Consultant. Trainee sounds like someone on a YTS scheme!	7/1/2014 11:47 AM
52	I am happy to be a 'trainee' in situations where my consultant would be called 'trainer'. In front of patients I am registrar or doctor to ensure they are aware that I have a medical degree.	7/1/2014 11:41 AM
53	Registrar sounds professional ,some patients think a trainee dr is an undergraduate.	7/1/2014 11:37 AM

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54	"Trainee" is demeaning. It raises a significant possibility that those who were in positions of power and who were responsible for its introduction and those that remain advocates for its continued usage wish to use it as part of narcissistic self-aggrandisement.	7/1/2014 11:35 AM
55	Doctor would be the correct honorific/term of address in general and specialty registrar could be subsequently used when it is useful to refer to the specific grade. Dear trainee is a lazy form of address and demonstrates that despite the vast sums of money collected via unwarranted compulsory fees that no one in the organisation has a clue how to use mail merge to generate emails or commission a website with a properly designed backend database that allows the generation of personally addressed emails.	7/1/2014 11:32 AM
56	'Trainee' invariably makes patients think we're medical students. I think it's degrading after so many years postgraduate work.	7/1/2014 11:32 AM
57	I feel like the last of a dying breed: the specialist registrar grade is the grade I was appointed to in February 2007. I completed my training today after an intervening period out of programme in research. Everyone, at whatever stage of postgraduate training seems to be called a trainee now.	7/1/2014 11:28 AM
58	would you refer to a Captain in the Royal Marines, someone of similar age and similar duration of work/ experience as a "Trainee"? He spends more time training than on active service, but no, no-one in their right mind would denigrate him as a Trainee; they would respect his experience and training. Same for a registrar.	7/1/2014 11:24 AM
59	Registrar is a term most of the public are used to. It implies a degree of professionalism that the generic term trainee does not offer.	7/1/2014 11:24 AM
60	Fed up with the word 'trainee' being used and the world and his wife (patients/nurses/relatives/AHCPs) thinking I'm the medical student. Doesn't garner much confidence when you are the one ostensibly making the decisions, especially in theatres/clinics/ITU.	7/1/2014 11:20 AM
61	There are instances in my hospital of the parents of patients refusing to allow doctors who are "trainees" to perform venepuncture or cannulation on their child. The time it takes to explain one's position is time wasted, and will multiply to a lot of wasted time. It is also fair to say that the "general public" and indeed the multidisciplinary team understand what is meant by the term registrar and this conveys a degree of confidence.	7/1/2014 11:20 AM
62	It is appalling that the word "Trainee" is used to signify our juniors. It makes patients think that they are not qualified and leads to a loss of confidence. John Leigh - GP for 28 years, GP trainer for 10 years	7/1/2014 11:19 AM
63	Trainee is a ridiculous term for someone who qualified from medical school over 10 years ago	7/1/2014 11:17 AM
64	Trainee leads to confusion among patients and other staff - that we are not fully qualified doctors.	7/1/2014 11:17 AM
65	Trainee is an ambiguous term. When I start new jobs, many people and patients ask "when will you qualify?" Or "how's university going?", or worst of all "when you finish training, do you want to be a GP?" It's only when I explain I qualified 8 years ago and have spent that long in "junior doctor roles" that they seem to realise my experience.	7/1/2014 11:16 AM
66	to patients trainee = medical student. it also to them = not experienced enough to make decisions	7/1/2014 11:15 AM
67	People understand registrar as being a doctor. They think trainees are medical students	7/1/2014 11:11 AM
68	There is scope for an opinion piece article on this...preferably launching some more cannons at the meducationalista The 'trainee pilot is going to land the aircraft' as opposed to the 'copilot will land us' analogy is a good one Fasten your seatbelts, we're coming in hot! Housedog	6/28/2014 4:17 PM
69	I would just prefer "doctor". Because that's what I am	6/28/2014 12:30 AM
70	Patient's are uncomfortable to be treated by a trainee, they feel someone unqualified is looking after them. And after 5 years of med school, it is unfair to be called a trainee.	5/7/2014 10:39 AM
71	Patients do not understand that they are being treated by a qualified doctor. Other NHS staff do not understand the term and do not know how experienced the doctor is. 'Trainee' implies that the doctor is unqualified and not fit to treat patients alone, which causes anxiety and distress to patients.	5/7/2014 4:46 AM
72	I am a registrar and introduce myself as such when I meet patients/relatives. I think they know that I am a trainee by virtue of the fact that I did not call myself "consultant".	5/7/2014 4:34 AM
73	What is wrong with the terminology patients understand such as Houseman (F1) SHO(F2) Registrar Snr Registrar?	5/7/2014 2:06 AM

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74	Being allowed to have the title Dr on my badge would be a start! The nurse clinician with a PhD in feminist ethics is allowed it so don't see why I'm not!	5/6/2014 9:29 PM
75	'Trainee' is not a term that fits well with such profession... next it would be the apprentice! Proper clothes, proper titles..more respect for people who spend their lives for the good of other people.	5/6/2014 1:20 PM
76	I prefer 'specialist registrar' even more.....	5/6/2014 12:54 PM
77	patient perception: registra=doctor trainee=medical student	5/6/2014 10:32 AM
78	Any other term that does not carry the implication that a doctor is not fully qualified is also welcome.	5/6/2014 8:25 AM
79	I hated being a "trainee". I felt it focussed attention on what I couldn't do rather than what I could, and that patients' confidence in me was adversely affected, with a negative impact on care.	5/6/2014 5:51 AM
80	I still describe and introduce myself as a paediatric registrar as everyone (staff and patients) has a better idea of what I mean and who I am when I say that. When I introduce myself as a paediatric trainee they generally assume I am a medical student and are surprised when I clarify that I am indeed a doctor, but also a trainee.	5/6/2014 5:28 AM
81	Trainee sounds unqualified to be doing anything.	5/6/2014 4:08 AM
82	Senior and junior registrar to replace ST and CT.	5/5/2014 10:48 PM
83	Already a doctor. Specialist trainee may be OK...	5/5/2014 3:49 PM
84	Trainee implies someone unqualified.	5/5/2014 3:30 PM
85	Wouldn't be any of these issues if registrars/trainees provided some sort of continuity of care. Patients don't worry about the badge if you see them regularly and make clear decisions without mumbling about senior review.	5/5/2014 3:17 PM
86	Leaving the system anyway.	5/5/2014 10:14 AM
87	I call myself a registrar as patients actually understand what this is	5/5/2014 6:23 AM
88	I've been a consultant since 2013 and prefer "Registrar" to trainee.	5/5/2014 4:43 AM
89	Trainee sounds like the person in question has not qualified as a doctor	5/5/2014 3:26 AM
90	Nursing staff are being promoted to "consultant" while qualified doctors are being demoted to "trainee". Confuses the public and demoralises the profession	5/5/2014 2:09 AM
91	Trainee suggests not yet qualified to patients. RCGPs stopped using trainee years ago in favour of registrar.	5/5/2014 12:18 AM
92	agree 'trainee' has adverse connotations.	5/5/2014 12:01 AM
93	trainee is a demeaning term for someone who performs the full duties of a doctor. The public understands what a registrar is	5/4/2014 5:43 AM
94	At work I am registrar, working hard to serve patients and contributing wholeheartedly to the running of the NHS, whilst learning how to be a good consultant. It is not until outside of paid work hours that I am a 'trainee', spending hours of time (that could be better spent with patients/my family/learning a new hobby/down the pub) filling in a load of bollocks on portfolio, going in on days off to do endless assessments and doing all of the other mandatory useless shit the deanery require of 'trainees'. I like being a registrar best.	5/1/2014 1:39 PM
95	I prefer registrar or at worst, junior doctor (at least that implies you are qualified doctors - trainee sounds like medical student)	5/1/2014 6:58 AM
96	I find the term 'trainee' demeaning and confusing for patients who think 'trainees' are not qualified doctors.	5/1/2014 5:21 AM
97	The patients in one trust are asked on pre bronchoscopy forms whether they would allow a trainee to do the procedure, they assume its a medical student and say no.	5/1/2014 2:56 AM
98	The term trainee is confusing to patients and undermines the work junior doctors do in propping up the service.	4/30/2014 3:05 PM
99	Patients are confused by "trainee" - they think I'm a medical student even though I've been a doctor for 8 years and am performing all sorts of complicated procedures on them	4/30/2014 3:05 PM

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100	Not only does it devalue the work and status of doctors in the eyes of colleagues, patients and management, it also diminishes doctors' own sense of self-efficacy. If you spend 10 years of your postqualification career being labelled as "unqualified", you will come to believe it and behave as though it is true.	4/30/2014 2:43 PM
101	I've never called anyone more than a few months out of med school."trainee"	4/30/2014 2:11 PM
102	I think that the use of the word "trainee" in the title of any qualified doctor is inappropriate. In particular it confuses & distresses patients who believe that they are being assessed & treated by unqualified staff.	4/30/2014 2:09 PM
103	It is confusing for patients to refer to qualified professionals as trainees. We are trainees, but it does not need to be part of our title.	4/30/2014 1:49 PM
104	I am a consultant and educational supervisor and always introduce trainees to patients as Dr Bloggs registrar or Dr Jones, one of our junior doctors. Patients want to be treated by qualified doctors rather than medical students and are often ill and frightened and unable to spare the effort required to learn which acronym means what - ST1, F2, CT2, etc. it also makes filling in the teaching observation WBAs more time consuming, instead of describing the audience as SHOs I need to list 4 different titles	4/30/2014 1:47 PM
105	I am not entirely happy with the term trainee, but registrar has a traditional more specific meaning: a doctor in training with a specific and significant amount of experience and training. I would be very happy to return to SHOs and registrars, but not with calling all speciality trainees registrars. We tend to still use the term reg from ST4 onwards...	4/30/2014 1:40 PM
106	I am tired of having to explain to patients that I am in fact a qualified doctor, and not a medical student. I qualified in 2002, and am routinely the most senior doctor on the ward. Trainee simply does not reflect what I do. Registrar does.	4/30/2014 1:35 PM
107	demeaning to the registrars, worrying for the patients.	4/30/2014 1:17 PM