

Deputy Director for the Centre for Perioperative Care (CPOC)

Role:	Deputy Director for the Centre for Perioperative Care (CPOC) – Surgical
Location:	Primarily remote, with quarterly travel to London for meetings and ad hoc around the UK as required
Contract Type:	Three years, subject to continued funding and an annual performance review. The post is renewable for no more than a second three-year term subject to the approval of the CPOC Board
Time Commitment:	1PA (approximately 4 hours per week)
Responsible to:	Professionally responsible to the CPOC Director, managerially responsible to the Director of Clinical Quality and Research
Role purpose:	The Deputy Director will provide strategic and clinical leadership to advance CPOC's mission. Working closely with the CPOC Director and Executive, they will oversee key workstreams, partnerships, and national initiatives. The role supports the development and delivery of education, quality improvement, research, and policy in perioperative care
Key relationships:	CPOC Director, Chair of the CPOC Board, Vice Chair of the CPOC Board, CPOC Fellow, Patient Lead, CPOC Board Partners, CPOC Executive, Associate Director Clinical Quality and Research. The role will be supported by the Perioperative Care Manager

How to apply

Applicants should submit the following to CPOC@rcoa.ac.uk:

- CV
- Supporting statement about your suitability for the role (this must include contact details (daytime telephone and email address)
- Letter of support from Trust/Healthcare Board

Deadline: 03 December 2025

Interview: 08 January 2026, RCoA Offices, London

Start date: 01 February 2026

For informal enquiries, contact Carly Melbourne, Interim Director of Clinical Quality & Research, at the same email address.

Please view the [job description and person specification](#).

About the role

There are two Deputy Director roles at the Centre for Perioperative Care (CPOC). This role is partially funded by the Royal College of Surgeons (RCS) of England and is open to RCS England members only. This role offers a unique opportunity for a senior surgical leader to help shape the future of surgical care. This role provides strategic and clinical leadership across CPOC's full portfolio of work and is a central member of the CPOC Leadership team. CPOC's strength lies in its multiprofessional governance and ethos, where success is driven by the partnership of voices from across the perioperative pathway.

This is a high-impact role for an individual with a track record of driving system-wide improvement, clinical excellence, and collaborative leadership, and who are committed to advancing integrated, patient centred perioperative care.

Remuneration

There is no direct payment for the role. The post is supported by one Programmed Activity (PA) per week, reimbursed to the post-holder's employing Trust in order to enable the post-holder to dedicate a minimum of 4 hours per week to the work.

The role requires a flexible approach to time commitment and the workload of the role will fluctuate, with occasional peaks in activity aligned to project milestones, events, or strategic priorities.

Period of commencement and operation

The post-holder will commence their duties from 01 February 2026 for a period of three years, subject to continued funding and an annual performance review. The post is renewable for no more than a second three-year term subject to the approval of the CPOC Board.

Equality and Diversity

CPOC is committed to ensuring diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of its work. We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and experiences, especially those from communities currently underrepresented in healthcare leadership roles. This includes, but is not limited to, people from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities, disabled individuals, LGBTQ+ people, and those with caring responsibilities or lived experience of health inequalities.

About CPOC

The development of perioperative care is driving the way healthcare is delivered nationally and internationally, changing inpatient pathways and integrating services through a multi-disciplinary team approach.

[The Centre for Perioperative Care \(CPOC\)](#) is a cross-organisational, multi-disciplinary collaborative between patients and the public, Royal Colleges and similar organisations. CPOC was established in 2019 to facilitate and promote the delivery of high-quality perioperative care; the integrated multidisciplinary management of patients from the moment surgery is contemplated through to full recovery. The [CPOC Board](#) is composed of [11 key partners](#).

CPOC is majority funded and hosted by the RCoA with financial contributions for the Deputy Director role from the Royal College of Surgeons of England.