

## **GUIDELINES FOR THE RECOGNITION OF POSTS IN ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY SUITABLE FOR TRAINING UNDER THE FRCS (Eng.)/ MRCS REGULATIONS**

These guidelines are prepared primarily for the information of those appointed by the Hospital Recognition Committee of the Faculty of Dental Surgery to carry out visitations of posts for the purpose of their **recognition under the Clinical Surgery-in-General section of the FRCS (Eng.) Examination Regulations**. In addition, they will be helpful for the Trainees, Trainers, and the Regional Adviser or his/her nominee. As the great majority of these posts will also be suitable for recognition under the MFDS/MFD RCS Examination Regulations, these Guidelines should be read in conjunction with those produced for the recognition of posts suitable for training for the MFDS/MFD Examination.

### GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY

With regard to the entry requirements for the FRCS Examination for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, the Senate of Royal Surgical Colleges has agreed:

- (i) that exemption from the Applied Basic Science section of any of the Collegiate Fellowships be granted to suitably qualified candidates who have passed a Primary FDS Examination or an equivalent Examination recognised by the Senate of Royal Surgical Colleges;
- (ii) that one year of suitable training in maxillofacial surgery acquired prior to medical qualification be recognised towards eligibility to enter the Clinical Surgery-in-General section of any of the Collegiate Fellowships;
- (iii) that eligible candidates be permitted to sit the Clinical Surgery-in-General section of any of the Collegiate Fellowships two years after medical qualification, the date of award of the Fellowship being deferred until completion of three years of prescribed post (medical)-qualification training.

Candidates entering the Clinical Surgery-in-General section of the FRCS(Eng.) Examination must have:

- (i) completed two 6 month periods in recognised post-medical registration appointments in any of the following surgical specialties:
  - General Surgery
  - Accident and Emergency
  - Orthopaedics, including the management of Trauma;

## GENERAL INFORMATION continued

- (ii) obtained another year of clinical surgery experience either
- after medical qualification in any recognised surgical post, or
  - before medical qualification in posts recognised as suitable training in maxillofacial surgery by the Hospital Recognition Committee of the Faculty of Dental Surgery. The Hospital Recognition Committee has set up a separate panel of visitors to assess such posts.

An Inter-Collegiate Board in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery has been established comprising of one representative of each of the four Surgical Colleges, two representatives of the Specialty Association (BAOMS) and the SAC Chairman.

It should be further noted that:

1. Locum tenens appointments in recognised posts in the British Isles may be recognised for the purpose of eligibility to sit the MRCS (Eng.) provided that each lasts for a minimum of four weeks and subject to a maximum of three months in the specialty or Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.
2. Full-time supernumerary (unpaid) appointments at hospitals in the UK may be recognised if it can be shown that the duties are identical with those of a full-time paid recognised post and are completed under Full or Temporary registration with the GDC.
3. Honorary and/or part-time clinical assistant/registrar posts in some units may be considered for recognition under the MRCS (Eng.) Regulations. Only that component of such posts offering experience in the continuing care of maxillofacial inpatients will be considered.
4. Part-time training and interdisciplinary posts may also be considered.

## APPLICATION FOR RECOGNITION

It has been agreed that the recognition of posts suitable for training in maxillofacial surgery under the MRCS (Eng.) Regulations will be the responsibility of the Faculty of Dental Surgery's Hospital Recognition Committee.

All hospitals will need to apply for recognition of Basic Specialist Training posts under the MRCS (Eng.) Regulations to the Hospital Recognition Committee of the Faculty of Dental Surgery (RCS Eng.). In addition, it is accepted that the present pattern of training in the specialty is such that some trainees will take the MRCS after achieving a Specialist Registrar post. Specialist Registrar posts will therefore need to be recognised as suitable for training in maxillofacial surgery under MRCS (Eng.) regulations. The Hospital Recognition Committee of the Faculty of Dental Surgery (RCS Eng.) will recognise such specialist registrar posts automatically and without further inspection as soon as they have been approved by the SAC and the JCSTD as suitable for Higher Training.

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## CRITERIA FOR RECOGNITION

Notwithstanding the present pattern of training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery whereby some trainees will take the MRCS Examination after appointment to a Specialist Registrar post, the Examination is designed to ensure an adequate knowledge of the broad field of Surgery-in-General before progressing to Higher Surgical Training. The special case of Oral and Maxillofacial trainees has been recognised by Council and the Senate of Royal Surgical Colleges.

The following Criteria are presented as a guide to visitors, trainers and trainees in relation to posts held in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery prior to medical qualification but may equally apply as minimum requirements for posts held after medical qualification.

1. Posts should be in Hospital or University Departments of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery where the post-holder is normally subject to the supervision of more than one trainer in the specialty.
2. The post must offer first-hand experience in the general management of in-patients, including admission procedures, pre- and post-operative management and the prevention, recognition and management of common post-operative complications.
3. Supervision must be available for the majority of clinical time.
4. The Department should be directly involved in an extensive range of work encompassing the field of oral and maxillofacial surgery.
5. There should be access to ITU/HDU beds, trauma beds, childrens' surgical beds and day surgery beds in order to provide training in these separate areas of surgical management.
6. On-call arrangements MUST comply with existing statutory requirements for Junior Doctors and Dentists.
7. There should be active involvement in regular formal teaching sessions and audit.
8. Study leave arrangements, in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of service, should encourage attendance at day release and block release courses where appropriate.
9. Adequate library, secretarial and residential facilities should be available.
10. Trainees will be required to keep and maintain a log of their clinical experience. These logbooks should include a record of both elective and emergency work.
11. Where the post covers more than one District, each component should comply with the tenets of these criteria albeit on a pro-rata basis.
12. These criteria apply equally to posts in Academic and NHS departments whether or not the institution has self-governing Trust status.