Specialist Training Programmes in Periodontics

1. Entry to Specialist Training

Entry to specialist training should follow a period of at least two years of general professional training and should be competitive. The MFDS or equivalent would normally be the minimum entry qualification.

2. Specialist Training Programmes (Periodontics)

Training programmes must be for a period of three years or 4,500 hours. Flexible (part-time) training is permitted but must achieve the required hourly commitment within a maximum period of six years. In common with the programmes for the other restorative specialties, the programme for periodontics should include a broad based training in all aspects of restorative dentistry and clinical dental science. Clinical training should be supervised and a structured assessment of progress must be an essential part of the programme.

The following elements constitute the specialist training programme:

a) Clinical experience must be obtained within a framework of total patient care.

b) Comprehensive treatment planning must be fully understood and practised.

c) The clinical element should include, to an advanced level, clinical expertise in the presentation, diagnosis and management of all known diseases and disorders of the periodontium, and in the diagnosis, case selection, treatment planning ans surgical aspects of oral implantology.

d) Evaluation, review and maintenance procedures

e) A log book must be maintained, together with a record of in-training assessments.

f) The programme content should be apportioned approximately as follows:

clinical 60% academic 25% research 15%

g) Clinical audit

h) Dento-legal issues

i) The training programme should include satisfactory completion of a research project.

3. Programme Content

Training programmes in periodontics should include the study and practice of the following subjects to a level appropriate to a three-year specialist training programme in periodontics:

Anatomy, physiology and pathology of the masticatory system, pulp and periodontium
Endodontics and prosthodontics in relation to periodontics
Microbiology of dental plaque
Comprehensive diagnosis and treatment planning
Prevention of dental diseases
Clinical features and diagnosis of periodontal diseases
Pathogenesis of periodontal diseases
Manifestations of systemic disorders
Periodontal therapy (initial, occlusal, orthodontic and surgical to include gingivectomy, modified Widman, apically repositioned flap, root resection and hemisection, mucogingival surgery and regenerative surgery)
Adjunctive therapies
Properties of biomaterials and dental materials
Radiology
Pharmacology
Epidemiology and dental public health: to include biostatistics
Management of medically/clinically compromised patients
Antimicrobial therapy of periodontal diseases
Management of furcation problems
Theory and clinical practice of implants
Research methodology and statistics
Communication, interpersonal skills and team leadership
Cell biology in relation to periodontal diseases
Techniques of case documentation

4. Completion of training

On completion of the training programme and satisfactory structural assessments throughout the programme, the trainee must pass the Membership in Restorative Dentistry (Periodontics)(MRD (Periodontics)) or equivalent prior to the recommendation for the award of a CCST in Periodontics.