

**Guidance for Health Authorities & Dental Schools applying to the Faculty of Dental Surgery, Royal College of Surgeons of England, for recognition of posts in Dental Public Health suitable for training for the Diploma of Membership of the Faculty of Dental Surgery Examination**

## **Introduction**

These guidelines are prepared to assist Health Authorities and Dental Schools which wish to apply to the Faculty of Dental Surgery (RCS England) for recognition of SHO post(s) in connection with the Diploma of Membership of the Faculty of Dental Surgery examination.

It should be noted that in addition to the six months spent in Dental Public Health, the post holder will also need to have spent a further eighteen months in recognised clinical posts in vocational training, SHO posts in hospitals, or in the Community Dental Service. Therefore, the overriding criteria for recognition of the Post is that it should enable holders to acquire additional experience within the field of Dental Public Health.

## **The Dental Public Health post recognised for MFDS**

The post should enable the holder to gain Dental Public Health experience under the guidance and tutelage of one or more consultants in Dental Public Health. One consultant in Dental Public Health, who should have had appropriate training, should act as the educational supervisor.

## **Supervision**

The aim of the supervision is to ensure that the trainee has access to an experienced consultant in Dental Public Health who:

- a. will work in the same suite of offices as the trainee on at least four sessions a week and enable the trainee to participate in appropriate Dental Public Health activities.
- b. has the necessary knowledge, skills and attitude to foster and encourage the trainee's professional development, by discussing issues, problems and the MFDS examination, particularly the module on epidemiology, statistics and preventive dentistry.

## **Physical Facilities**

The trainee should ideally have an office of his or her own, or a desk in a shared office or open plan environment. The trainee must have access to a telephone and personal computer. Secretarial support should be available.

## **Dental Public Health Training Experience**

Recognised posts should provide a varied experience of Dental Public Health throughout the training period. Participation in the work of the Department of Public Health Medicine, including departmental business, education, and audit meetings is a valuable part of the training experience. Attendance at meetings of Consultants in Dental Public Health, including audit meetings will be expected. Participation in journal clubs and other educational activities at an academic centre should be encouraged.

It may be appropriate, depending on the post holders previous experience, to arrange experience of the dental public health functions of the community dental service with a local NHS Trust, eg, screening, epidemiological data collection, oral health promotion.

At least one study session a week must be provided. Study leave arrangements should encourage attendance at appropriate day release or other courses. There should be access to adequate library facilities. A named Consultant in Dental Public Health should be assigned as Educational Supervisor. SHO tasks should be at an appropriate level below those expected of a Specialist Registrar.

## **Applying to the Faculty of Dental Surgery for Recognition of a Post**

Written applications should be made to the Faculty of Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. A Proforma (Appendix A) is given as a guide to the range of information required by the Faculty. As SHO posts in Dental Public Health are an entirely new concept, the Proforma should be used as a guide to assist the Health Authority or Dental school to demonstrate what opportunities it can provide within a training post.

After receipt of an application the Faculty will arrange to visit the training post. Evidence of the range of Dental Public Health experience should be presented to the visitors who inspect the training post on behalf of the Faculty. A portfolio should be maintained, to provide brief details of typical issues that the trainee has addressed.

APPENDIX A

**APPLICATION FORM FOR RECOGNITION OF A TRAINING POST FOR MFDS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH OF A HEALTH AUTHORITY OR DENTAL SCHOOL**

**Name of Health Authority or Dental School:**

*Name of person applying for recognition of training post:*

Post title within Health Authority or Dental School:  
Address:

Telephone No:

Fax No:

**Brief overview / description of the Department of Dental Public Health:**

**Details of Trainer:**

Name of Trainer:

Qualifications:

Post title within Health Authority or Dental School:  
Address:

Telephone No:

Fax No:

Please give details of trainer's current job role and other experience relevant to being a trainer:

**Details of other Consultants to be involved in training:**

Name of Trainer:

Qualifications:

Post title within Health Authority or Dental School:

Address:

Telephone No:

Fax No:

Please give details of trainer's current job role and other experience relevant to being a trainer:

**Programme:**

Please give details of where the trainee will normally work each day:

MONDAY            **am**

**pm**

TUESDAY           **am**

**pm**

WEDNESDAY       **am**

**pm**

THURSDAY           **am**

**pm**

FRIDAY             **am**

**pm**

(Please mark the sessions with a \*, where the trainer will normally work alongside the trainee.)

**Details of the main DHA Headquarters or Dental School where the trainee will work:**

Name of DHA HQ or Dental School:

Address:

Telephone No:

Fax No:

**Details of other offices where trainee will work:**

Name of office:

Address:

Telephone No:

Fax No:

**Details of library facilities:**

**Details of computer facilities:**

*Please give an idea of the range of Dental Public Health practice the trainee can expect to experience (under the following headings):*

**Oral health needs and demands assessment:**

**Information technology:**

**Commissioning and evaluation of dental health services:**

**Promoting Oral Health:**

**Epidemiology:**

**Educational Programme:**

**Clinical Audit / Clinical Effectiveness:**

**Effective Communication:**

**Management:**

**Does the applying Authority agree to pay any expenses incurred by the Visitor(s) in connection with the inspection? YES / NO**

**Signed.....**

