

# Curriculum for Specialist Training Programmes in Endodontics

## 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 will normally be the minimum entry qualification.

## 2. Specialist Training Programmes (Endodontics)

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 endodontics 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 dental pulp, including related surgical procedures.
- 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%
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- 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 endodontics should include the study and practice of the following subjects to a level appropriate to a three-year specialist training programme in endodontics:

- Anatomy, physiology and pathology of the masticatory system and related structures, including teeth and periodontium
- Microbiology of dental plaque, caries and periodontal disease
- Cell biology
- Comprehensive diagnosis and treatment planning
- Prevention of dental disease
- Sedation, local and general anaesthesia
- Radiology and imaging
- Pharmacology and therapeutics
- Epidemiology
- Management of medically/clinically compromised patients
- Communication, interpersonal skills and team leadership
- Aspects of behavioural science
- Properties of biomaterials and dental materials
- Diagnosis and management of pulpal and periapical disease
- Diagnosis and management of orofacial pain, psychogenic pain and TMD
- Diagnosis and management of dento-alveolar infections and sequelae
- Tooth preparation, isolation, access and instrumentation
- Preparation, disinfection and obturation of root canal system
- Surgical endodontics
- Management of traumatic injuries to the teeth
- Practice management
- Endodontics in children (primary teeth and immature permanent teeth)
- Assessment and management of teeth which have previously undergone endodontic treatment
- Evaluation of the success of treatment
- Review and maintenance procedures
- Periodontics and prosthodontics in relation to endodontics
- The periodontal/endodontic interface
- The orthodontic/endodontic interface
- Theory and clinical practice of implants
- Research methodology and statistics
- Treatment of discoloured teeth
- Restorative considerations and endodontics
- Cross infection and sterilisation

### **4. Completion of training**

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