



1 June 2020

RCS Eng and RCPSG are now in a position to confirm that the Bi-Collegiate Membership in Orthodontics will be held in the UK on 14-17 September 2020. This examination had previously been postponed due to COVID-19.

At present it is not known what social distancing restrictions will be in place at that time. Therefore, the Colleges have made preparations to run the examinations either face-to-face with appropriate social distancing or through remote delivery, if this is required. This flexibility is important in ensuring that we can commit to delivering these high-stakes examinations.

In order to accommodate this, the Bi-Collegiate Specialty Membership Examinations Committee (SMEE) has approved a revised format for the September examination as follows:

- 12 short answer questions (120 minutes) *Exemption for this component will be granted for those successful in the RCSEd M Orth Part A*
- Submission of three treated cases, of which two will be examined (30 minutes)
- Four structured clinical reasoning cases and two communication skills scenarios (160 minutes)

If Government policy allows face-to-face examination delivery, this will take place at the RCGP in London. If, however, the restrictions mean that the examination must be delivered remotely this will be done through videoconferencing. The final decision will be made nearer the time and candidates will be informed at the earliest opportunity. Candidates are advised not to book any travel at this stage.

We are fully aware of the impact that COVID-19 has had on trainees' preparation for the examination, in particular completing their own treated cases. The examination in September will recognise this whilst ensuring that the M Orth remains valid and robust as a high-stakes assessment.

Regarding international examinations, RCS Eng and RCPSG are monitoring the situation to assess when examinations will be able to resume outside of the United Kingdom. Examination activity at each international venue will resume only when it is safe to do so.

Further information regarding delivery of the September 2020 examination will be provided as soon as it is available.