



12 July 2006

PRESS RELEASE

Dental Faculties of UK & Ireland to Offer New Examinations

The dental faculties of the UK and Ireland have announced plans progressively to replace the existing MFDS/MFD and MFGDP(UK) examinations with new examinations from October 2007. These will be run by each individual College and are intended to summate two years of general professional training.

The new assessments are being designed to enable reciprocity between the Colleges and, except in Ireland, will not require specific approved training posts to have been completed. To that end, part 1 of the examination offered by each faculty may be taken during the first year after graduation, and part 2 during the second year. The first diets of part 1 and part 2 will be held by all faculties in October and November 2007 respectively.

There will be some differences in the assessment format between each faculty. The assessments offered by the Faculty of General Dental Practice (UK) and the Faculty of Dental Surgery of The Royal College of Surgeons of England, will consist of:

- * A workplace-based portfolio
- * Part 1 in the form of one written paper containing multiple choice questions (MCQs) and multiple short answer questions, and

- * Part 2 in the form of an objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) and structured clinical reasoning (SCR) exercise.

For the assessments offered by the dental faculties of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland:

- * Part 1 will consist of two written papers with a variety of question styles including MCQs, multiple short answer questions and extended matching questions, and
- * Part 2 will consist of an OSCE, with an additional viva in Ireland.

The faculties are putting in place transitional arrangements with respect to the current examinations, and these will be displayed on the individual websites.

ENDS

This press release is issued on behalf of the Joint Meeting of Dental Faculties (JMDF) of the UK and Ireland: The Faculty of General Dental Practice (UK) and the Faculty of Dental Surgery of The Royal College of Surgeons of England; the Faculty of Dental Surgery of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh; the Dental Faculty of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow; and, the Faculty of Dentistry of The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

For more information, please contact any of the individual faculties: FGDP(UK) RCS(Eng) 020 7869 6755; FDS RCS(Eng) 020 7869 6810; FDS RCSE 0131 527 1664; DF RCPSG 0141 221 6072; or, FD RCSI 00 353 1 402 2239.