



## **COPDEND statement on Joint Restorative Dentistry and Monospecialty CCST**

There have been issues raised by COPDEND and the GDC on the application of an inconsistent approach whereby trainees recruited to a Restorative Dentistry programme can also gain access to a monospecialty specialist list.

A paper entitled 'Restorative Dentistry – The Role of PGDDs in Preparation of Trainees to Enter Mono-Specialty Membership Examinations and Award of CCST', was written in October 2016 and amended in 2019, but has never been agreed formally by COPDEND and the GDC.

Discussions were undertaken between COPDEND and the GDC earlier this year to review current inconsistent approaches and a decision was taken that Restorative Dentistry trainees will no longer be eligible for recommendation for the award of a CCST in a monospecialty. On completion of training Postgraduate Dental Deans will only recommend a trainee for the award of a CCST in Restorative Dentistry.

Trainees will still have the option of submitting an application for entry onto a monospecialty specialist list via the Specialist List Assessed Application process. <https://www.gdc-uk.org/registration/your-registration/specialist-lists/specialist-list-application-pack>

**In order to allow trainees who had already indicated at their year 3 ARCP prior to May 2021 when the original COPDEND statement was published that they wish to consider a CCST in a monospecialty as well as Restorative Dentistry, they will not be affected by this decision. This group of trainees will now be their final year of training**

If Restorative trainees, who are achieving satisfactory review of competency progression outcomes wish to undertake a Monospecialty Specialist Royal College Examination, before they complete their training in Restorative Dentistry, they may be supported to do so but may not be allocated study leave, as it is not a Restorative Dentistry curriculum requirement.

At a meeting in November attended by a range of key stakeholders (COPDEND, GDC, Restorative Dentistry specialist societies, trainee representation, Chair of the Specialty Advisory Committee for Restorative Dentistry, Chair of the Advisory Board for Specialty Training in Dentistry, Dental Faculties of the Surgical Royal Colleges) COPDEND and the GDC were asked to reconsider the position statement.

We appreciate that trainees may feel that they are being treated differently to their predecessors. However, since the process described in the paper 'Restorative Dentistry – The Role of PGDDs in Preparation of Trainees to Enter Mono-Specialty Membership Examinations and Award of CCST' was never formally agreed by COPDEND and the GDC it is necessary to make changes to the current arrangements and inevitably there needs to be a cut off at some point.

Further to liaison with stakeholders, we intend to wait until the new curricula are approved and revisit this during discussions on transitional arrangements which will be agreed in the second quarter of 2022. This will provide an opportunity to see how the monospecialties curricula map to Restorative Dentistry curriculum and consider the implications for trainees.

This approach has the support of the GDC.

10 February 2022