

POSTGRADUATE DEAN: PROFESSOR SIMON GREGORY

Postgraduate Dental Education Department
Director: Mr A M Baxter BDS MMedSci FDSRCPS

Executive Summary: VISIT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF OMFS AND ORTHODONTICS AT THE IPSWICH HOSPITAL NHS TRUST ON 31 JANUARY 2011

BACKGROUND

- The GMC/PMETB does not include dentistry in their remit.
- OMFS/Dental still maintains the SHO grade in the training process.
- The Deanery is responsible for ensuring the quality management of the training process for dental training grades.
- The Deanery is also inspecting the training in the units with regard to the training provided to junior staff and in relation to the recently implemented Dental Foundation Programme and new Orthodontic curriculum that will soon be introduced.
- The Deanery is now responsible for specialty training post approval with advice from the relevant SAC.

MAIN FINDINGS

Dental SHO training

- This is a busy Unit with a single handed OMFS consultant. An additional locum consultant has been appointed. The consultants are well supported by the career grade staff, who undertake the educational supervision.
- The Trust is planning to make an OMFS consultant appointment jointly with Norfolk and Norwich University NHS Foundation Trust.
- The consultants and middle grade staff appear to provide as much supervision and support as they can within their current remit.
- Whilst there is a wealth of hands-on oral surgery experience available training opportunities in the more specialised areas such as oral cancer treatment and cleft lip and palate are lacking.
- There is a weekly teaching session with a programmed timetable of topics related to dental foundation curriculum and this runs well.
- Good educational aspects in ward rounds and handovers.
- Recording of appraisals and assessments occurs but there is limited use of the dental e-foundation portfolio.
- The educational supervisors appear to have little in the way of planned time to undertake this role.

Orthodontic Specialty Training

- Department induction occurs but could be enhanced by adopting a more structured approach similar to what occurs in the departmental SHO induction.
- Supervision in Ipswich is good but much of this is provided by the locum consultant.
- There were timetabling issues with London in regards to the teaching programme.

- The supervision at London appears to be haphazard.
- The trainee had to take annual leave from London in place of study leave.
- The trainee was concerned about bullying issue relating a member of staff in London.
- As a single standing trainee there is a potential for isolation.

Recommendations for the future

Dental SHO training

1. The Trust should continue to actively engage with its fellow Trust in Norwich.
2. There would be benefits to the trainees in their exposure to a wider scope of casemix. Consideration should be given to trainees having an option of travelling to Norwich with their consultant to see head and neck oncology cases.
3. The use of the Dental Foundation e-portfolio by the trainees should be made mandatory. The educational supervisor should be proactive in this and assessments of the trainees related to the portfolio should be undertaken. Reflective learning by the trainees should be encouraged.
4. The Trust should try and identify an area where the trainees can access computers, to help use the e-portfolio and other educational resources, within or close to the Department.

Orthodontic Specialty Training

1. As a single standing trainee in the department it would be advisable to appoint a mentor for them who they would be able to go to for pastoral support if required.
2. Communication between Ipswich and London needs to be improved and in particular the Educational Supervisors at each component of the rotation need to have a more formal relationship with tighter control of written records monitoring progress and managing issues.
3. The London Deanery will be informed of the findings in light of the issues highlighted around communication, study leave and bullying allegations.
4. Consideration needs to be given to the support of the educational supervisor, who is also Training Programme Director, both in terms of time in the job plan for training matters and in succession planning for the locum consultant, who provides supervision for training.
5. Extend the use of the Induction document used for Foundation Dentists at Ipswich for use with Specialist Registrars in Orthodontics.
6. Ensure as much access to teaching opportunities as the timetable programme will allow.