



**Joint Position Statement British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (BAOMS)  
and the Committee of Postgraduate Dental Deans and Directors (COPDEND)  
on Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery units (OMFS) providing Dental Core Training (DCT) in NHS Hospitals.**

1. Dental Core Training within hospital OMFS units is of benefit, irrespective of the ultimate career pathway chosen by dental graduates.
2. DCT within hospital OMFS units aims to build the team-working, professionalism, knowledge, understanding, decision making, competence and confidence of postgraduate dentists.
3. The DCTs, and all those supervising them and their training, must understand that they work within the General Dental Council's (GDC's) 9 Standards for the Dental Team<sup>1</sup>. DCTs should be clearly identified as dentists so that both patients and those supervising them are aware that the GDC is their regulator.
  - a. Dentally qualified supervision must be available to DCTs working in hospitals, as these trainers will have the best understanding of the "Standards for the Dental Team".
  - b. Where dentally qualified trainers are not part of the team within which the DCT is working (e.g. hospital at night), one will always be available under agreed escalation policies.
4. The GDC has not defined standards for DCT but has for undergraduate<sup>2</sup> and specialty training<sup>3</sup>. COPDEND has defined Standards for Dental Educators<sup>4</sup>. Current standards should be used by dentists training DCTs. The terminology within these documents differs slightly from the GMC's Promoting Excellence – Standards for Medical Education and Training<sup>5</sup> but the principles are similar. Most OMFS trainers are registered with the General Medical Council (GMC) and so when training DCTs the GMC Promoting Excellence should currently be used.
  - a. Patient safety is the first priority
  - b. Theme 1: Learning environment and culture
  - c. Theme 2: Educational governance and leadership
  - d. Theme 3: Supporting learners
  - e. Theme 4: Supporting educators
  - f. Theme 5: Developing and implementing curricula and assessments
5. COPDEND and BAOMS will work together to define 'what good should look like' in OMFS DCT posts and support all posts to move towards this standard. This will be led by the new DCT curriculum.
6. As part of trainee appraisal, their portfolio should contain details of all Serious Untoward Incidents 'Never' events, Critical Incidents, or 'near misses' in which the trainee has been involved (even if not directly involved). The DCT Training Programme Director or Associate Dean on behalf of the Postgraduate Dental Dean/the educational commissioner will maintain an anonymised log of these events that will be held for educational and Quality Management and Assurance purposes and shared appropriately. BAOMS will ensure distribution of this essential educational resource to all OMFS clinical and educational supervisors.
7. DCT posts in hospitals are usually jointly funded by the employing Trusts and the educational budget supervised by Dental Deans / Directors. BAOMS and COPDEND recognise the value of this combined funding. Trainees should not be expected to deliver service commitments to the exclusion of their training, but rather as part of a planned and balanced programme within hospital teams.
  - a. We recognise in most jointly funded training posts, there is tension<sup>2</sup> between education and service provision. Where changes are proposed which could impact on education or service, they should be mutually agreed and the result of consensus.
  - b. Where local agreement proves difficult, both COPDEND and BAOMS will work together to find a solution.
  - c. To promote consensus and highlight important aspects of GDC and GMC educational standards, the DCT Curriculum and associated guidance, BAOMS and COPDEND will produce regular joint 'Frequently Asked Questions' and 'Guidelines for DCTs working in Hospitals' where more detailed explanations of best practice will be included.

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1 **General Dental Council - Standards for the Dental Team**

<http://www.gdc-uk.org/Dentalprofessionals/Standards/Pages/standards.aspx>

2 **General Dental Council – Standards for Education**

<http://www.gdc-uk.org/Aboutus/education/Documents/Standards%20for%20Education.pdf>

3 **Standards for Specialty Education**

<http://www.gdc-uk.org/Dentalprofessionals/Specialistlist/Documents/Standards%20for%20Specialty%20Education.pdf>

4 **COPDEND – Standards for Dental Educators**

[http://www.copdend.org/data/files/Downloads/COPDEND\\_Standards%20high%20resolution.pdf](http://www.copdend.org/data/files/Downloads/COPDEND_Standards%20high%20resolution.pdf)

5 **General Medical Council - Promoting excellence: standards for medical education and training**

<http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/standards.asp>