Programme Specification

Awarding Body Institution:
Queen Mary, University of London

Teaching Institution:
Year One and Two, Faculty of General Dental Practitioners of the Royal College of Surgeons of England

Years Three, Institute for Dentistry, Bart’s & The London, Queen Mary School of Medicine and Dentistry

Name of the Final Award:
Master of Science in Implant Dentistry

Programme Title:
MSc Implant Dentistry

Criteria for Admission to the Programme:

Criteria for admission to the postgraduate programme in Implant Dentistry of the Faculty of General Dental Practitioners (FGDP) for the Diploma in Implant Dentistry:

The Programme is designed for dental practitioners intended to practice implant dentistry. They will therefore have a licence to practice dentistry (BDS or LDS or equivalent or National Diploma). They will be registered with the General Dental Council or equivalent or National Regulatory body. They should normally be currently practising in an environment where there is sufficient demand for implant dentistry and will need to be able to identify the patients required for work based training. The practices will need to be approved, with particular respect to work based training and specific surgical and infection control procedures. They are required to have indemnity or insurance cover as required by the General Dental Council of the United Kingdom, a current Certificate of Immunity Status against Communicable Diseases, and training in intermediate Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.

Criteria for admission to a University based component:

Entry to the University based component will require satisfactory completion of the Diploma in Implant Dentistry of the Faculty of General Dental Practitioners of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. In addition, the final decision on admission will be made at interview following submission of a satisfactory curriculum vitae which indicates the candidate’s ability to benefit from the Programme.
Aims of the Programme
The overall aims of the FGDP Diploma in Implant Dentistry programme is to provide education and training to enable dental practitioners to practice implant dentistry to a high standard, and in the best interests of the patient. In addition, the programme aims are as follows:

a. to improve the quality of life for patients who require implant therapy, enabling them to function effectively, and without compromise in society;
b. provide education and training for dental practitioners in implant dentistry, enabling them to provide effective and safe treatment for the benefit of the patient within the context of the patient's medical and psychological wellbeing. Furthermore, to execute the treatment to a high degree of competence. Training will be provided in an environment, which is conducive to theoretical learning, the development of surgical and prosthetic skills as well as clinical experience;
c. To broaden the outlook of the primary or secondary care practitioner to relate to other disciplines within the dental and medical specialties, so as to benefit patients and provide care of the highest standard;
d. To form the basic core of education for on-going continuing professional development (life-long learning), in the rapidly developing field of implant dentistry.

Aims of the University-based component
The general aims for postgraduate courses offered in the Institute of Dentistry are:

- To provide full time and part time opportunities for those wishing to develop their skills and understanding in oral health related sciences.
- To develop the research and service careers of dentists and Professionals Complementary to Dentistry.

The general objectives of the postgraduate courses are to:

- Conduct literature searches, and evaluate original published research.
- Design research protocols, execute a supervised research project, analyse and report findings supported by references.
- Demonstrate a range of transferable and specialised skills.

The specific course objectives of the MSc in Implant Dentistry are:

- Completion of research projects in an aspect of Implant Dentistry to emphasise the elements of evidence based approach to treatment.
- To develop an understanding of research methodology, design and critical evaluation of the applied scientific literature.

Learning Outcomes of the Programme
At the end of the University based component of the MSc in Implant Dentistry, the student should be able to:

- Search, find, critically read and analyse appropriate literature.
- Formulate appropriate hypotheses for investigation.
- Demonstrate a knowledge of techniques that are available for research and where to access new techniques and how to evaluate them.
- Interpret results of these techniques.
- Plan, conduct and report original research.
- Work independently, learning in both familiar and unfamiliar situations.
- Communicate results of research and scholarship using written and verbal means.
- Use information technology to successfully support the above activities.
- Demonstrate self-direction and originality.

**Teaching and Learning and Assessment Strategies**

This Programme aims to promote teaching and learning enriched by original scholarship and dental research, to encourage students to become independent learners. To accept responsibility for their own learning, and to enhance the development of powers of critical thought, reflection and the ability to express themselves orally and in writing. This project based course will give the postgraduate students experience in a design of studies, data analysis, presentation skills and critical thought. Students will be encouraged to present their work in stages, both in written form and orally to their peers. Assessment will be by a dissertation. This should not normally exceed 15,000 words plus figure legends, appendices, and references to an absolute maximum of 25,000 words. An examination board will be appointed to include both intercollegiate University of London examiners, and an external visiting examiner. The dissertation should be marked by any internal examiner with the most appropriate experience in the area studied, but preferably not from the candidate’s own school. Any dissertations considered to be of a distinction, borderline, or fail standard must be forwarded to the external examiner for moderation prior to the oral examination. Marks can be awarded for three components:

- Background to the project, the review of the literature – its relevance and accuracy, and the clarity of the aims of the study.
- The study, design, material and methods as well as presentation, interpretation and discussion of the findings.
- The performance of the candidate at the viva voce examination.

**Programme Structure and Requirements**

Students will attend the Induction Programme and core course run by the Dental School for all Taught Postgraduate students. This includes a critical reading course, and a statistics course. The project will be carried out under individual supervision.