

4. Recommendations

111. The working group propose the following recommendations:

Recommendation 1: The need for dual qualification

112. There should be no change to the current statutory requirement for those training in OMFS to obtain primary qualifications in both medicine and dentistry.

Recommendation 2: The duration of training

113. Discussions should take place with medical and dental schools and the regulators to explore ways of streamlining the education and training of those dentists or doctors who wish to pursue a career in OMFS. Any reduction in the length of training leading to a primary qualification must be compatible with the European Professional Qualifications Directive 2005/36

Recommendation 3: The training pathway; when should training begin?

114. Since OMFS is unique in requiring two primary qualifications, we recommend that all those responsible for training in the specialty explore the feasibility of beginning specialist OMFS training at the start of the second degree course.

Recommendation 4: Registration

115. Those on the specialist register in OMFS need be registered only with the GMC.

Recommendation 5: The relationship between Oral and Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery

116. There should be a separate review of the specialty of Oral Surgery.

Recommendation 6: Foundation programme

117. Dually qualified individuals who can demonstrate to PMETB that they meet foundation year 2 (F2) competencies have the option to move directly into competition for specialty training programmes without completing F2. This does not alter the requirement to complete F1, which remains compulsory.

118. PMETB notes that the Department of Health for England intend to publish a review of the foundation programme later this year, and this may be subject to some change.