## **Questions and answers from DCT webinar held – 17th January 2019**

**Full details of all Scotland posts can be found at** [**www.copdend.ord**](http://www.copdend.ord) **and** [**http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/recruitment/dental-recruitment**](http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/recruitment/dental-recruitment)

**Question:**

What is required for the initial application? Do you need a CV?

*There is no CV required, there is an application form that needs to be completed. Further Information for this is found on www.copdend.org website*

**Question:**

How should we prepare for the SJT and the interview?

*There are sample SJTs available online. The SJT is specific to dental core training but similar to the medical SJT for foundation training*

**Question:**

Does everyone who applies get to sit the SJT?

*If you meet the criteria within the DCT Person Specification you will be longlisted and therefore invited to sit the SJT*

**Question:**

What percentage of your application score does the SJT make up? Is there a 'passing mark' for SJT? If not met, will we still be invited for subsequent Interview stations?

*In DCT1: Each station in the interview is worth the same amount so the three interview stations are worth 25% each with the SJT making up 25%*

*In DCT2/3 the SJT it will form 20% of the total score*

*Your SJT score will be combined with your scores from the assessment centre. Even if you score poorly in the SJT you will still be invited to the assessment centre*

**Question:**

Apart from the SJT, would there be an interview and if yes, what would the interview be like.

*Yes, there will be an interview in addition to the SJT. There will be 3 interview stations comprising clinical governance, communication and a clinical scenario.*

**Question:**

When we apply, do we have to specify what speciality we intend to take up?

*You have to apply for specific posts but you do not need to indicate your future plans.*

**Question:**

If you believe you are interested in a specialty career would you recommend focussing on applying for posts particular to that specialty for DCT1 and 2 etc or apply for maxfax one year for the experience? I have heard it is difficult to apply for any specialty training without doing maxfax.

*Our advice is to experience a broad range of specialties at core level before applying for specialty training.*

**Question:**

Is there any recommended reading for a maxillofacial post for someone who has no real prior experience in that field?

*For OMFS posts speak to other trainees, undertake a period of shadowing or attendance at courses. There will be a 2-day induction to OMFS at the start of training for all trainees new to OMFS*

**Question:**

Question for the current CT’s; what is their opinion on the 2-year posts? Do they suggest applying to be at the same location for 2 years? Or do they recommend 1-year posts?

*The 2-year DCT posts are new for 2019-20.*

**Question:**

Does DCT2 have this "2-year scheme"? I.e. you wouldn’t have to reapply in dtc3 year?

*At present the 2-year posts only cover DCT1 and DCT2 years.*

**Question:**

Does the 2-year option provide valuable experience when it comes to specialty training applications?

What are the advantages of the 2-year DCT posts compared to the 1-year posts?

*The 2-year posts will give the same experience as a DCT1 and DCT2 post but will give the postholder stability in knowing your location of training for 2 years.*

**Question:**

If applying for the 2-year CT1/ CT2 post is a portfolio needed at any point? Or are there any additional requirements for this post compared to a 1-year CT1 post?

*The application process for the 2-year post will be the same as for a DCT1 post.*

**Question:**

During the interview process for CT2, what percentage do you need to score in each station to be considered appointable?

*There is no percentage score that you need to gain in each station. The outcome of the interview process will be dependent on your overall performance and your preferencing of posts.*

**Question:**

Is it advantageous to have completed both DCT1 and DCT2 to progress into a hospital/PDS based career? Or would one year of DCT be acceptable also?

*It would be advantageous to have experience in multiple environments and specialties to progress to a hospital or PDS based career.*

**Question:**

Hi thanks for hosting this session! I wanted to ask if consideration is given to fresh EU graduates? Or is there an expectation for us to pass the MDFS?

*MFDS is not an essential requirement for core training. You are eligible to apply for dental core training if you meet the criteria within the DCT Personal Specification.*

**Question:**

Would the interview scenarios be given ahead of the actual interview, just as it was done for the Oriel National FD this year?

*No, the scenarios will not be given ahead of time.*

**Question**

Will the questions / scenarios be the same across the UK?

*Yes, the scenarios are the same across the UK.  Applicants are reminded that it is unprofessional behaviour to share questions, and sharing of information puts your application at a disadvantage.  Statistical analysis of last years' results showed no difference in outcomes on the different days of recruitment.*

**Question:**

*Is there a difference between English CT vs Scottish CT?*

*The curriculum and ePortfolio for dental core training are used across the UK.*

**Question:**

What is the pay for DCT1, DCT2 and DCT3. Comparing England and Scotland.

*For information on salaries please see the advert on NHS Jobs. The current salary scale is subject to change in April 2019.*

**Question:**

Is there any preference for applicants who have just completed VT vs those who have been in practice for a few years? Could anyone comment on advantages/disadvantages of pathway?

*There is no preference for applicants whether they apply from VT or practice, as long as the Person Specification is met. Most trainees experience no problems transitioning to a hospital environment.*

**Question:**

How is longlisting and shortlisting carried out?

*Longlisting is determined by the criteria within the DCT Person Specification. There is not shortlisting process for DCT recruitment.*

**Question:**

What is the general feeling/sentiment towards doing a DCT3 OMFS post, having not done any OMFS in DCT1/DCT2 years. Genuine concern that will not be welcomed into DCT3 OMFS post without any OMFS experience thus far.

*This should not be a concern. Any trainees who have not done OMFS before will attend a 2-day OMFS induction at the start of the training period.*

**Question:**

What support is given for studying in DCT posts - how much emphasis is placed on expanding the scope of knowledge.

*DCT posts are training posts. There is a study day programme throughout the year at which attendance is mandatory and a study leave allowance*

**Question:**

Is it one interviewer per station?

*There will be two interviewers at each station*

**Question:**

Are there any exams you must do during your CT post?

*There are no exams that are a requirement of Dental Core Training but there is a curriculum that includes both summative and formative assessment.*

**Question:**

You mentioned a few hospitals that are good for hands-on Maxfax e.g. smaller hospitals like Forth Valley. Would you know of any other hospitals that you would recommend specifically?

*The post descriptors for each post are available on the copdend website. Each OMFS post will vary slightly. For specific details of the post we would advise speaking to current trainees in post.*

**Question:**

If you do not get a post in the first instance and go through clearing, do you only get offered a job that you've ranked in the first round? Or would you be offered any post that needs filled?

*There is no clearing for DCT posts.*

**Question:**

is there a maximum number of posts you can apply for?

*No, there is no maximum number.* *You need to apply for a minimum of one post. We would advise against only applying for one post as you would need to rank very highly to guarantee obtaining this post, and in only choosing one you limit your chances of being successful.*

**Question:**

Although the locations of the posts are available to view, is there further information available on the departments within hospital setting the CT1 posts would incorporate

*There are post descriptors available on our website for all DCT posts where you will find this information.*

**Question:**

Why are there so few paeds jobs?

*There are several DCT posts that include a Paediatric dentistry component, some of these are within the PDS. The DCT posts are designed to give applicants broad experience of the dental specialties.*

**Question:**

I'm aware there is a specification to travel during the CT posts, I have my driving test next month will I be disadvantaged because I don't drive yet?

*You would not be disadvantaged if you do not drive. Some posts will require travel to multiple sites and being able to drive may make this easier.*

**Question:**

Are travel costs given?

*No.*

**Question:**

How does the shift rotation work for the OMFS posts?

*This will vary, dependent on the OMFS post. The details are on the job descriptor for each post*

**Question:**

If you are applying for a post, but have little experience on that particular area, are you disadvantaged in any way vs others with more, prior experience when applying?

*No.*