



ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS AND
SURGEONS OF GLASGOW

CONSULTATION:	DF1 Start Date Consultation
ORIGINATING SOURCE:	UK Committee of Postgraduate Dental Deans and Directors (COPDEND)
CONTRIBUTORS:	Members of Dental Council (November 2012 – October 2013)
SUBMITTED:	April 2013

COPDEND DF1 Start Date consultation

The first three questions ask about the individual responding, where they work and whether they are part of a deanery and have been deleted as we are seeking your comments for collation into a JCPTD response.

4. Please give your preference and comments

- a. Do you support the introduction of a national September start date for DF1 (VT)?

NO

Any comments?

The reasons given as advantageous for this proposal are either very limited in scope or unlikely to occur.

The advantages outlined in numbers 1 and 2 do not to our mind improve patients safety, they simply move the time of year when new and inexperienced trainees commence their training. The means of ensuring patient safety is to ensure and plan for appropriate supervision of new trainees when they commence work, this can be planned for August as easily as it can September.

Reason 3: This seems to us to carry very little weight, surely practitioners can organise themselves sufficiently to meet their responsibilities to trainees and organise leave. I am not aware of any suggestion from general medical practices that they need to move to an September start to enable them to take leave!

Reason 4: Is there any evidence this is what they wish. Our impression is that for the most part they have adequate time for any planned holidays between finishing finals and starting work and given the likely level of debt incurred in the course of their undergraduate training are likely to wish to start work and earning as soon as possible, not put it off another month.

Reason 5: If this is an issue it is best addressed by appropriate planning. It is probable that rather than give an extra month it would mean the process would start a month later and take as long as present.

Reason 6: If this occurs it almost it runs the risk of delaying the start of process referred to in reason 5 and compounding the issue of CRB checks etc.

- b. Do you support the introduction of a national September start date for DF2 and SHO (Career Development) posts?

NO

Any comments?

The start of VT and DF2 posts should be interlinked and as we feel there is no reason to change the VT start date and good reason not to, there is no reason to contemplate changing the start of DF2

5. When should we introduce the change to a September start date? (Optional)
You shouldn't introduce the change

2013

2014

2015

6. Any other comments. (Optional)

There does not seem to us to be any good reason to contemplate this proposed change. Such issues as are raised can be addressed more satisfactorily, the proposed change would have significant disadvantages that greatly outweigh any benefit.