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5. APPENDIX I  9
1. General Regulations

The General Diplomas of the Faculty of Dentistry, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, in the disciplines outlined in this document may be granted to those who possess a dental qualification registrable in the Register of Dentists for Ireland and to graduates or diplomates in Dental Science of those Universities and other licensing bodies recognised for the purpose (i.e. those that admit candidates to Temporary Registration in Ireland and UK) and who comply with the Regulations.

The requirements to present for the examinations are outlined below.

The dates of the examination and the fees payable for admission to the examination are set out in the examination calendars, which are published annually by the College and are available on the Faculty of Dentistry website http://facultyofdentistry.ie. The examination is conducted in the English language.

Applications must be made online through https://postgradexams.rcsi.ie/

Prior to formally applying, please ensure that you carefully read the following information that can be found on our Faculty website
- Exam regulations
- Exam Rules of Conduct

The online application must be received by the SARA Department (Student Academic and Regulatory Affairs) on or before the closing date of the examination. Once applications have reached the maximum quota, which may be in advance of the advertised closing date, no further applications will be accepted.

Once your online application has been processed you will receive official confirmation, along with your examination number.

The SARA Department will be in contact with you prior to the examination regarding further details of venues, timetables, etc.

The required certificates and the full amount of the fee payable for the examination must accompany applications for admission to an examination.

Candidates should make themselves familiar with the Examination Policies available on our website

Candidates withdrawing from an examination must adhere to the examination policies regarding withdrawal.

The College or Board of the Faculty reserves absolute discretion to refuse to admit to the examination, proceed with the examination of, any candidate who (a) infringes any of the Regulations or (b) who is considered by the Examiners to be acting in a manner prejudicial to the proper management and conduct of the examination or (c) whose conduct has rendered them in the College’s or Board’s opinion, unsuitable for conferral with the Diploma/Membership of Faculty of Dentistry of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

Candidates who wish to appeal should review the appeals policy
2. Diploma of Primary Care Dentistry

DPCD RCSi Entry Requirements & Examination Format

Diploma of Primary Care Dentistry – Entry Requirements

The requirements to present for the examination of Diploma of Primary Care Dentistry of the Faculty of Dentistry RCSi, DipPCDRCSI are:

- Possession of an undergraduate dental qualification recognised by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
- Subject to the above, a period of at least 6 months following graduation in dentistry on the day of the examination.
- Attendance at no less than 25 hours of approved verifiable Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities within the last 6 months prior to the date of the examination. Please complete the Record of CPD activity available [here](#).

Candidates with clinical experience in countries other than Ireland and the United Kingdom will need to have their experience and CPD participation approved by the Education Committee of the Faculty of Dentistry before they are eligible to enter the examination.

Enquiries should be send to pgexams@rcsi.ie in the first instance.

DPCD RCSi – Examination Format

Notes

The Dip PCDRCSI examination is intended to provide evidence of knowledge, experience and clinical competence in all aspects of Primary Care Dentistry beyond that recognised by the primary dental qualification.

The examination will have emphasis on all aspects of Primary Care Dentistry as listed in the syllabus. The award of the Dip PCDRCSI will be a marker that can identify those dentists with the knowledge, understanding and experience of clinical practice of Primary Care Dentistry sufficient to continue with further suitable broad based clinical, para-clinical and practice management experience and practice based training.

Subject to the regulations for entry, holders of the Diploma will be in a position to enter Part 2 of the Membership of the Faculty of Dentistry of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (MFDRCSI) examination.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Paper 1 (MCQ) | The two and a half hour MCQ paper will consist of:  
- 75 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) each consisting of a stem and five branches, with each branch being independently TRUE or FALSE |
| Paper 2 (CRA & SBAs) | The 100 minute CRA paper will consist of:  
- 10 Clinical Reasoning Assessment (CRA) each of 5 minutes’ duration and of several parts. Some themes may span over two |
questions. This section may involve clinically relevant material presented through the medium of digital projection. Aspects of the practical applications of clinical, diagnostic, patient management and practice management will be tested. Candidates are advised to spend no more than 50 minutes on this section of the examination.

- 33 Single Best Answer Questions (SBAs) each consisting of five statements with only one correct answer. Candidates are advised to spend no more than 50 minutes on this section of the examination.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award of the Diploma</th>
<th>Successful candidates who have complied with all the regulations will be awarded the Diploma of Primary Care Dentistry of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limitation on Attempts</td>
<td>There is no limit on the number of attempts for this examination. However, examiners may, at their discretion, defer for two years, a candidate whose performance is such that re-examining within such a time is not considered to be in his/her best interest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exemption</td>
<td>No exemptions are offered from any part of the examination.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Membership of the Faculty of Dentistry

MFD RCSI Entry Requirements & Examination Format

MFD RCSI – Entry Requirements

The requirements to present for the examination of Membership of the Faculty of Dentistry RCSI, MFDRCI are:

**MFD Part 1**
Candidates can take Part 1 of the examination at any stage following graduation from a Dental School recognised and acceptable to the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

**MFD Part 2**
Candidates should normally be a minimum of 12 months qualified from a Dental School recognised and acceptable to the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

Candidates **must provide evidence of:**
- A pass in Part 1 MFDRCSI or equivalent* or a pass in the Diploma of Primary Care Dentistry (DipPCDRCI)
- Evidence of 50 CPD hours in the 12 months prior to the examination
- For examinations held from June 1st 2017 candidates must have completed a Basic Life Support course and provide evidence of this on application for Part 2 (see note below regarding CPR).

**Exemptions from MFD Part 1**
- Those candidates who have completed 6 months training in a recognised hospital, institution or vocational training post, either in Ireland or overseas which has been approved for training by the Faculty of Dentistry of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, are exempt the requirement for 50 CPD hours
- *Part 1 MFDS RCS Edinburgh or MFDS RCPS Glasgow or Part 1 MJDF RCS England or Diploma of Primary Care Dentistry (DPDCDMI).
- Candidates who hold MRCS are exempt from Part 1.

**MFD – Examination Format**

**Notes**

The MFD Examination is intended to provide evidence of knowledge, experience and clinical competence of general professional training beyond that recognised by the primary dental qualification. Award of the Diploma will indicate that the candidate has enhanced his/her knowledge and understanding well beyond the primary qualification level to the standard required to proceed into specialist training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part 1 (MCQ &amp; SBAs)</td>
<td>A three hour written paper which is composed of the following:-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) each consisting of a stem and five branches, with each branch being independently TRUE or FALSE and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 Single Best Answer Questions (SBAs) each consisting of five statements with only one correct answer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Part 1 will examine both sections of the syllabus with candidates being awarded either a pass or a fail.

The paper in Part 1 will each contain 50% of the questions from Section 1 and 50% of questions from Section 2 of the syllabus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part 2</th>
<th>Candidates must pass Part 1 and have completed the requirements for entry or be entitled to an exemption as noted in these regulations before they may sit Part 2. Both sections of the syllabus will be examined in Part 2.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OSCE</td>
<td>An Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE). There will be a minimum of 12 questions provided within an examination booklet, each of five minutes duration along with at least two observed stations that may contain simulated clinical events. Knowledge of patient examination, communication, diagnosis and treatment planning may be tested. No specialist knowledge is required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIVA</td>
<td>Two fifteen minute oral examinations. The orals will be structured to assess both applied basic sciences and clinical skills appropriate to 24 months postgraduate experience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award of the Diploma</td>
<td>To be eligible for the award of the Diploma all candidates must  • Possess a primary dental qualification that is acceptable to the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland  • Have obtained a pass in MFD Part 2  • Have complied with all the regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limitation on Attempts</td>
<td>Candidates will normally be allowed a maximum of 5 years from the first successful attempt at Part 1 to complete all parts of the examination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPR</td>
<td>For all Part 2 MFDRCSI examinations held from June 1st 2017 onwards, candidates will be required to provide an attendance certificate (translated to English where necessary) as evidence of having completed a Basic Life Support course within 2 years of the examination date.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Membership in General Dental Surgery

Entry Requirements & Examination Format

**MGDS – Entry Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The requirements to present for the examination in MGDSRCSI are:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A dental qualification fully registerable in the Dental Register of Ireland or the Dental Register of the General Dental Council in the United Kingdom, or other licencing bodies as approved by the College.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Holder of the MFDRCSI (or equivalent), or evidence of engagement in the clinical practice of dentistry for no less than 10 years or part-time equivalent in a primary care dentistry environment, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- CPD requirements in compliance with the Dental Council in Ireland’s prevailing recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- To be taken normally 3 years post MFDRCSI (or equivalent)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MGDS – Examination Format**

**Notes**

The Membership in General Dental Surgery Examination has two sections, namely section 1 and section 2. The examination will be conducted at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, or at other suitable venues approved by the Board of the Faculty. The two sections will normally be held on the same day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 1</strong></td>
<td>Defence of the 3 Log Diaries (45 minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence of Log Diaries</td>
<td>• Approximately 15 minutes for each Log Diary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guidance to log diaries can be found in Pages 25-30 of the following link</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 2</strong></td>
<td>General Viva (15 minutes) covering all aspects of the scope of the examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Viva &amp; Simulated</td>
<td>• Two unseen simulated clinical cases (30 minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical</td>
<td>Covering competence in history taking, examination, diagnosis, treatment planning and communications with patients and fellow health care professionals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Appendix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Award of the MGDS</strong></td>
<td>The MGDS will be awarded to those who pass both sections of the examination (both sections of the examination must be passed, there will be no compensation between each section) and who fulfil the entry requirements........</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Limitation on Attempts</strong></td>
<td>The examiners may, at their discretion, defer for two years, a candidate whose performance is such that re-examining within such a time is not considered to be in his/her best interest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notes</strong></td>
<td>The deadline for candidates entering the examination in Ireland is 1st September in the year of the examination. Log diaries and the final certificates of postgraduate activates as stipulated in the regulations must also be received by the College not later than the 1st September</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Faculty of Dentistry, RCS
preceding the examination. Where applicable, the deadline for candidates entering the examination in approved centres overseas is advertised separately.

| Guidance | On **Case Selection** for Log Diary preparation  
|          | On **content** of the Log Diaries  
|          | On **format** of the Log Diaries  
|          | On the **scope** of the examination  
|          | **Patient Consent Form**  
|          | Please review pages 25-30 for the above guidance documents  

| Mentors | A number of ‘mentors’ are available in Ireland for candidates who wish to obtain advice on cases, etc. It may also be possible to join the MGDS Study Group based in Dublin to help prepare for the examination. For further information please contact the Faculty Office facdentistry@rcsi.ie |
5. APPENDIX I

Candidate Code of Conduct

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND
Coláiste Rioga na Máinleá in Éirinn

Exam Title

Date

Examination Number

Before the Examination
- Place your ID card face-up and clearly visible on your assigned desk.
- Electronic devices are **not** permitted in the examination. All devices should be handed in to the College representative.
- All other personal belongings should be placed in the area designed by the College representative.
- Please do not communicate with any other candidates following entry into the examination venue. If you have any queries seek the advice of an invigilator by raising your hand.
- You may read the front cover of the examination paper.

During the Examination
- All answers to questions must be written clearly.
- If you have any queries seek the advice of an invigilator by raising your hand.
- Please **do not** communicate to any other candidates during the examination.

At the End of the Examination
- Make sure that your exam number is clearly marked on each answer sheet/booklet(s).
- Exam papers to be returned along with your answer sheet/booklets.
- Remain at your desk at the end of the exam until your script has been collected by the invigilator.
- As soon as your script has been collected you may leave the examination venue making sure to take your personal belongings with you.
Examples of Examination Offences

- Opening the exam paper before the exam has commenced.
- Having unauthorised items either on your person, in the vicinity of your desk or in the examination venue including the toilets.
- Communicating in any manner with other candidates in the examination venue.
- Having an electronic device on your person at any time when in the examination venue including the toilets.
- Continuing to write after the end of the exam has been announced.
- Removing any used or unused answer books, exam papers or any other examination stationary from the examination venue, even temporarily.
- Ignoring or disobeying any other instructions given by an invigilator or member of the Student, Academic and Regulatory Affairs office.

Penalties for Examination Offences

Examination offences are taken extremely seriously. Anyone either suspected of or caught committing an examination offence will be reported immediately to the Faculty and College Authorities. Further action may be taken.

The penalties for examination offences include (but are not restricted to) the following:

- Expulsion or suspension from the examination.
- Failure to be credited with any marks obtained in the examination prior to the detection of the examination offence.
- Deferral of further attempts to sit the examination.

The above applies to all parts of the examination. By signing below, I confirm that I have read and fully understand the contents of this document.

Signature: ___________________________  Date: ___________________________