



A Career in DENTISTRY

“ Being a dentist demands diagnostic, clinical and social skills and allows you the unique opportunity to pursue several careers which offer an intellectual and practical challenge as well as a service to society and a respected place in the community. In order to be successful and enjoy this profession, it is essential that you possess good people skills and an interest in their welfare.”

BRITISH DENTAL ASSOCIATION





Areas of Employment

- General Practice
- Community Dentistry
- Corporate Bodies
- Hospital Dentistry
- Armed Forces Dentistry
- University Teaching and Research

Restorative dentistry

- * This deals with the restoration of diseased, injured, or abnormal teeth to normal function.
Includes all aspects of Endodontics, Periodontics and Prosthodontics.



Prosthodontics

- * The replacement of missing teeth and the associated soft and hard tissues by prostheses (crowns, bridges, dentures) which may be fixed or removable, or may be supported and retained by implants.



Endodontics

- * This is concerned with the cause, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of diseases and injuries of the tooth root, dental pulp, and surrounding tissue.



Periodontics

- * The diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases and disorders (infections and inflammatory) of the gums and other structures around the teeth



Paediatric dentistry

This is concerned with comprehensive oral health care for children from birth through adolescence, including care for those who demonstrate intellectual, medical, physical, psychological and/or emotional problems



Orthodontics

This is the development, prevention, and correction of irregularities of the teeth, bite and jaw.



Oral Surgery

This deals with the treatment and ongoing management of irregularities and pathology of the jaw and mouth that require surgical intervention. This includes the specialty previously called Surgical Dentistry.



Special Care Dentistry

This is concerned with the improvement of the oral health of individuals and groups in society who have a physical, sensory, intellectual, mental, medical, emotional or social impairment or disability or, more often, a combination of these factors. It pertains to adolescents and adults.



Smaller specialities

- Dental Public Health
- Oral Medicine
- Oral Microbiology
- Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
- Dental and Maxillofacial Radiology

Dental Therapists

- More flexibility in training pathways
- 2 year diploma in either Dental therapy or Dental Hygiene
- 3 year combined course, BSc
- 3 A levels

Dental Technology

- Developing profession
- Training while working or University course
- Courses include Dental Technology (Birmingham & Manchester)
- Dental Materials (London)
- 3 year course, BSc

Dental Nursing

- Diploma course
- Can study while working
- Full time courses in local colleges

Dentists' salaries

- NHS
- Foundation year £31,355 (2017/18)
- Consultant £76,761 - £103,490
- CDS £38,861 - £83,118
- General Dental Practice £50,000 -£110,000
(variable as self-employed)
- Private practice usually higher than NHS

**To qualify as a dentist you need to complete a BDS OR BChD usually lasting 5 years
There are 16 dental schools in the UK, 2 of which are graduate entry only. There are also 2 dental institutes that are postgraduate entry only.**

Undergraduate:

- Queen's University Belfast School of Dentistry
- Birmingham School of Dentistry
- Bristol School of Dentistry
- Cardiff Dental School
- University of Dundee Dental School
- Glasgow Dental Hospital and School
- Leeds School of Dentistry
- Liverpool School of Dentistry
- London- King's College Faculty of Dentistry (Guy's)
- London- Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry
- Manchester- Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health
- Newcastle school of Dental Sciences
- Peninsula Dental School, Plymouth
- Sheffield School of Clinical Dentistry

Graduate Entry Schools

Aberdeen Institute of Dentistry
Preston School of Dentistry (UCLan)

Shortened Graduate Entry courses are also offered at Liverpool and Kings Dental Institute, London

Postgraduate Only Dental Institutes
UCL Eastman Dental Institute, London
Edinburgh Dental Institute



Upon qualification, dentists must register with their governing body, the General Dental Council (GDC)

In order to work in the NHS a dentist must undertake Dental Foundation Training (DFT) or Vocational Training (VT). This is supervised training, working in an approved Practice with an approved trainer for one year after graduation.



Useful Websites and Resources

British Dental Association

<http://www.bda.org>

Dental Schools Council

<http://www.dentalschoolcouncil.ac.uk>



Below are links for a child attending for a dental GA in Altnagelvin and a patient's visit to the Community Dental Service.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ASFYtGSYqpE#action=share>

https://youtu.be/_AKj9kK-1As