

## SAC in restorative dentistry April 08

The continuing debate over the structures involved with SpR training continues. The new GDC committee (SDEB) tasked to review training has met and is beginning to provide feedback. There will be a new accord between the GDC and the Royal Colleges and this will hopefully clarify the new situation. As mentioned before the SAC's will have a primary task of curriculum development rather than monitoring which will be undertaken locally by the post graduate deans. This means that the SAC is a major pathway for specialist societies to influence postgraduate training. Therefore feedback to the societies on these important issues is paramount.

The new SAC in special care dentistry has commenced. As predicted there will be common boundaries between special care, restorative and paediatric dentistry. This will be indirectly related to curriculum development but also to health care provision. Some PCT's might be confused as to what restorative dentistry provides differently to general practitioners or even special care dentists. The document "the role of the restorative consultant" available on line will need to reflect these changes and to ensure health care providers understand what we do and are able to justify continued activity.

There was a brief discussion on the 18<sup>th</sup> week pathway and its impact on training. There are advantages and disadvantages but we need to work within this target and should use the challenges to benefit patient care. Individual units will work out their best practice but the considered opinion was that the patients perception of when treatment commences was the ultimate start of care and the stopping of the clock.

This marked the end of the term of office for Paul King and Angus Walls was elected to chair the SAC starting in June.

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