

SAC in OMFS Liaison Members – An Introduction for Surgical Trainees

Introduction

The SAC in OMFS is the abbreviation for the Specialty Advisory Committee in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery which is a sub-committee of the Joint Committee on Surgical Training (JCST). The JCST is an advisory body to the four surgical Royal Colleges of the UK and Ireland for all matters relating to surgical training. The JCST is the parent body for all ten SACs responsible for surgical specialties, plus the Core Surgical Training Advisory Committee (CSTAC) and the Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum Programme (ISCP).

Trainers may be appointed to the SAC as representatives of the specialist association (BAOMS) or of the Royal Colleges.

The job description of an SAC Member can be downloaded from: http://www.jcst.org/committees/docs/sac-member-job-description-2014/at_download/file

SAC Liaison Members (LMs)

LMs are senior trainers in your specialty, who are members of the SAC. They are allocated to your training programme by the SAC Chair. To be appointed or elected to the SAC, they must have a commitment to training and be experienced surgeons. Most LMs are appointed for a period of 5 years and so build up an understanding of your training rotation. As well as attending your regional meetings, they will attend meetings of the SAC in London.

Handover, Induction and Training

LMs receive a handover from their preceding LM in your area. They attend a JCST-led induction, LM development days, and must be Equality and Diversity trained.

Externality

The LM is not linked to your rotation or to your School of Surgery or LETB. They provide an external experienced viewpoint on ARCP meetings and training committee meetings in your area.

Oversight and Reporting

The LMs complete a feedback form after every ARCP meeting they attend. This form is reviewed by the SAC at its meetings. No trainee details are included on these forms.

Discretion and Confidentiality

It is important that you realise LMs are a safe route to provide feedback about your training to your training programme. They can be either a route to send this feedback or can provide advice to you as to how best to do this. You can speak to your LM before or after your ARCP meeting or contact them anytime by email.

How do I find out who is my Liaison Member?

They will be sitting at the table of your ARCP. You will also find a complete list of SAC members and LM responsibilities on the JCST website: <http://www.jcst.org/committees/specialty-advisory-committees/sacs-1/oral-and-maxillofacial-surgery-sac-members>

Contact details for the JCST Secretariat can also be found here: <http://www.jcst.org/contacts/contact-us>