

Institute of Maxillofacial Prosthetists & Technologists



Scope of Practice

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Scope of Practice

The scope of practice (SoP) document is a way in which we can describe what we are trained and competent to do. The guidance is based on current education and training pathways and describes the areas of work in which we have knowledge, skills and experience to practice safely and in the best interests of our patients.

Introduction

As a registered 'Full Member' of the professional body the Institute of Maxillofacial Prosthetists and Technologists (IMPT) you will have undertaken a peer review assessment (Assessment Interview Board- AIB) of your competency to practice safely prior to being accepted onto the register. The IMPT register is the only register of Maxillofacial Prosthetists and Reconstructive Scientists (referred to as MfP's) held in the UK.

This guidance sets out the skills and abilities of Full Member (MIMPT) registrants held on the IMPT register. The SoP reflects the specialist work-based and academic training you have undertaken. It is not a full list of tasks that an MfP will undertake. The tasks will vary depending on your patients' needs and local service requirements. The tasks and complexity will also change as your career progresses due to further experience, technological advances and further training.

Your own SoP may develop, by broadening your skills and expertise or equally by becoming more specialised. The guidance will include additional skills you may develop after initial registration.

You should only make decisions about a patients care or treatment if you have the necessary knowledge and skills to carry out that task competently. This will include formalised training and competency assessments. Indemnity for your technical, scientific and clinical practice is important to protect the patient.

If you feel that you are not qualified or do not have the correct experience to undertake a task or make a decision on treatment then you must refer the patient to an appropriately trained colleague. As an MIMPT you must practice within the 'Standards' as set out by the IMPT and your other statutory regulatory bodies e.g. General Dental Council (GDC), Health Care Professions Council (HCPC).

Our training pathway is part of the Modernising Scientific Careers (MSC) programme. This post graduate programme in Reconstructive Science leads to registration as a Clinical Scientist with the HCPC.



Dental Technology SoP

MfP's can carry out the SoP of a Dental Technician (DT) if registered with the GDC. An MfP may hold specific higher level DT qualifications (Education Level 4-7) that provide them with the knowledge and competency to undertake more complex DT tasks e.g. Advanced Orthodontics or Advanced Dental Prosthetics. As at DT you may also develop additional competencies e.g. intra oral impression taking.

Registration as a DT allows you to use the title and it does not interfere with your practice as an MfP. The DT training, knowledge, skills and competencies underpin the STP programme and enhance the SoP of an MfP.

Maxillofacial Prosthetist & Reconstructive Scientist SoP

Patients that require treatment by an MfP are usually referred from a Medically qualified Specialist (Surgeon or Physician), General Practitioner (GP), General Dental Practitioner (GDP) or Consultant Dental Specialist (Oral Surgeon/Restorative Consultant/Orthodontist) or from another Healthcare Professional.

The referral may be for planning, manufacture or treatment in head and neck oncology, congenital abnormalities or trauma and could be a one-off treatment or may require long-term, continual care.

As part of a multidisciplinary team MfP's are specially trained, uniquely competent and indemnified, within the context of Maxillofacial Prosthetics and Reconstructive Science in 7 key areas:

- **Trauma;** treatment planning and medical device manufacture
- **Orthognathic surgical planning;** digital and analogue simulation and surgical guide manufacture
- **Deep buried implants;** cranioplasty and contour restoration (bone or soft tissue) planning, design, manufacture and specialist advice on legislation (in-house and externally)
- **Facial and body prosthetics;** to include ears/auricular, noses/nasal, orbitals, indwelling eyes, body and digit/hand/finger prosthesis. Utilising medical adhesive and more complex implant retained components
- **Surgical planning and support in head and neck oncology and reconstruction;** digital manipulation of images for preparation of 3D printing, complex analogue and digital surgical planning, surgical oral splints, custom reconstruction plate manufacture and surgical guide construction
- **Post-surgical intra oral prosthetic reconstruction in head and neck cancer patients;** as part of the MDT for Head and Neck Cancer (NICE 2003, RCS Guidelines 2011); secondary clinical support and custom oral device manufacture and clinical preparation of obturators with the dentally qualified members of the MDT



- **Dynamic and static splint therapy;** burns, keloid scar treatment, ocular and septal defects

MfP's are clinically trained and competent to:

- carry out a clinical examination
- record a relevant medical history, explain procedures and obtain patient consent
- take clinical records to include facial and body impressions, facebow records, occlusal records and clinical measurements for surgical planning or post surgical device manufacture (obturators)
- diagnose and treatment plan
- provide specific specialist treatments direct to patients
- recognise abnormalities and refer to the appropriate medical practitioner
- manufacture custom patient specific medical devices and implants
- simulate complex face and jaw surgery using existing patient information (dental moulds/CT/x-ray/3D models) prior to orthognathic surgery, secondary reconstruction (oncology or trauma)
- keep full records for medical device, product and material tractability and to satisfy current regulations
- give patients appropriate after care advice

As previously stated this is not an exhaustive list but an outline of the SoP. The full list of competencies is outlined in the training documentation (STP & HSST in Reconstructive Science; Academy of Health Care Science).

The role of an MfP is to innovate and provide custom treatment specific to the needs of the patient for a multitude of surgical specialities including Maxillofacial, ENT, Plastic Surgery, Ophthalmology, Oncology, Neuro Surgery and Dental specialties. This may include adaption of other medical devices for specific patient treatment. This unique innovate role explains the evolving nature of an individual members' SoP.



Additional Skills

You can develop additional skills through the process of lifelong learning. These skills will be based on service adaption for the specific needs of your patients. The process of learning will be through formalised training and competency assessment prior to direct patient application.

There are many areas where additional skills can be developed but these can include:

- Specialist service provider in a regional or national expert capacity e.g. ophthalmology specialist providing haptic shells or custom surgical conformers
- Patient Group Directive (PGD); supply and administer medicines (not prescribing) e.g. provide topical analgesia prior to micropigmentation
- Medical micropigmentation
- Laser therapies
- Cosmetic camouflage
- Innovative emerging therapies

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

You must remain up to date and carry out 'lifelong learning' to maintain your skills as defined by the requirements for CPD of your statutory registration bodies (GDC/HPCPC). This is an important factor in revalidating and maintaining your skills throughout your career.

Career Progression

Maxillofacial Prosthetics is a rewarding career with the opportunity for personal, professional and career development. The complexity of the cases you manage; the specialist nature of patient care you provide; collaboration in research and innovation; responsibility for training and service development; staff management; control of budgets and finance will be reflected in the career level you have achieved and be outlined in your job description. The career framework reflects the training and career pathway, where career level 7 is the entry for a qualified Maxillofacial Prosthetist/Clinical Scientist. The career level also reflects the level a member would enter the IMPT register; Associate Member (AIMPT); Full Member (MIMPT) and Fellow (FIMPT). The specific staff framework will be based on local service needs but will include a combination of:

Career Level 2, 3 & 4- Healthcare Science Assistants and Associates

Career Level 5- Healthcare Science Practitioner and Dental Technician



Career Level 6-	Scientist Trainee (STP- Reconstructive Science) and Specialist Dental Technicians (AIMPT)
Career Level 7-	Maxillofacial Prosthetist or Reconstructive Scientist (MIMPT)
Career Level 8-	Principal or Consultant Maxillofacial Prosthetist or Reconstructive Scientist
Career Level 9-	Consultant/Director of Maxillofacial Prosthetics or Reconstructive Scientist (FIMPT)

Career level 2-4 will provide support services to specialist departments. This can be part of a structured training pathway to achieve registration with the Academy of Healthcare Science or working towards a Healthcare Practitioner (PTP) or Scientist (STP) programme.

Career level 5 will be providing dental technology and some support to specialist Maxillofacial Prosthetists under supervision.

Career level 6 may include Specialist Dental Technicians with competencies that have been acquired through further training and supervised by senior Maxillofacial Prosthetist or Reconstructive Scientist staff e.g. Specialist Orthodontic Technicians with post graduate qualifications undertaking orthognathic planning. Career level 6 would also include Trainees on the Scientist Training Programme (STP) in Reconstructive Science. This registrant level would be an Associate of the IMPT (AIMPT).

Career level 7 is the qualified entry level for a Maxillofacial Prosthetist or Reconstructive Scientist. They will be registered at membership level (MIMPT) with the professional body (IMPT) and registered with the regulatory bodies (GDC/HPC). This will be a highly specialist clinical and technical role with some responsibility for research, innovation and/or managing-part of a service. Under MSC this career level offers progression for promising staff under the Higher Specialist Scientist Training programme (HSST) to Consultant level.

Career level 8 requires experienced Principal or, if more experience is required, Consultant level staff providing clinical and scientific expertise, management and leadership within Maxillofacial Prosthetics and Reconstructive Science. They will possess highly developed specialised skills and knowledge and have responsibility for leading specialist clinical and technical services. They will also have responsibility for training, research and development and at the higher-level involvement in regional and national programmes.

Career level 9 Scientists require the most advanced knowledge in their field. They are national leads in a specific specialist area of work. They will work at a national level as a leader and contribute to national initiatives in training, service development, research and innovation. They will have responsibility for the development, delivery and oversight of multiple services on a large regional/multiregional basis. At the highest level of achievement, the professional body IMPT would acknowledge their achievements through the award of Fellowship of the IMPT (FIMPT).



Reference Documents

Curricula

Scientist Training Programme (STP) in Reconstructive Science (www.networks.nhs.uk/nhs-networks/msc-framework-curricula/stp)

Higher Specialist Scientist Training Programme (HSST) in Reconstructive Science (www.networks.nhs.uk/nhs-networks/msc-framework-curricula/hsst-higher-specialist-scientist-training)

Professional Assessment/Registration/Standards

IMPT Assessment Interview Board (AIB)

IMPT Fitness to Practice (2017)

IMPT Standards (2017)

GDC Standards For the Dental Team (www.gdc-uk.org)

GDC Scope of Practice (www.gdc-uk.org)

AHCS Good Scientific Practice Document (www.ahcs.ac.uk)

HCPC Standards of Practice (www.hpc-uk.org)

NICE; Improving Head and Neck Cancer Outcomes 2003 (www.nice.org.uk/guidance/csg6/resources/improving-outcomes-in-head-and-neck-cancers-update-773377597)

Head and Neck Cancer: Multidisciplinary Management Guidelines: British Association of Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery, RCS of England (4th edition, 2011)

Historical

IMPT Scope of Practise for Maxillofacial Prosthetics and Technology (2005)

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