

Modernising Medical Careers 




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NHS


**“Change is not made without inconvenience,
even from worse to better “**

Richard Hooker 1554 – 1600
Anglican theologian

How it was



- Working up to 138 hrs a week
- Exams as well!
- Moving from job to job
- Multiple applications
- Senior registrar 4-9 years
- Consultant eventually (not all)



- Up to 15 years resident on call
- Career uncertainty
- No formal specialty curricula or assessments (except College examinations)

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What went wrong in 2007 

- Many more applicants than vacancies – issue of IMGs, contrary to policy of UK self-sufficiency
- 2 security breaches in computerised application system (MTAS)
- Problems with shortlisting and selection processes (some areas)
- Training structure considered inflexible

Useful references:
2007 Douglas Review
www.mmc.nhs.uk
Aspiring to Excellence
www.mmcinquiry.org.uk
(DH response
www.mmc.nhs.uk)
Health Committee
www.parliament.uk

www.mmc.nhs.uk

Managing competition in 2008


- More specialty training places
 - 215 additional DH funded ST3 posts in 2007
 - 165 ST3/4 posts in 2008

- National opportunities for higher specialty training (ST3/4) identified

- New rules for overseas applicants
 - Home office changes to immigration rules will give preference to UK and EEA graduates

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Educational structures in 2008



- Foundation Programme unchanged (remains a 2 year programme)
- GP training unchanged (3 years run-through)
- Some specialties “uncoupled” – offered 2/3 yrs core training then competition to enter higher specialty
- Some specialties continued to offer run-through training (RTT)

- Hence so called “mixed economy” model

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