

# What do Birmingham postgraduates do?

## School of Dentistry

### *First destinations of postgraduates*

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Analysis of first employment destinations of postgraduates  
from the College of Medical and Dental Sciences  
(six months after graduation)

- Analysis of postgraduate destinations by subject areas
- Summary of first destinations of postgraduates, 2009–13
- Illustration of the range of occupations undertaken by postgraduates

# Foreword

I AM DELIGHTED TO INTRODUCE 'WHAT DO BIRMINGHAM POSTGRADUATES DO?' WHICH LOOKS IN DETAIL AT THE FIRST DESTINATIONS OF OUR DENTISTRY POSTGRADUATES AND AT EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS FOR ALL POSTGRADUATES WITHIN THE WIDER COLLEGE OF MEDICAL AND DENTAL SCIENCES.



In addition to providing accessible information on employment destinations of Medical and Dental Sciences postgraduates, this publication is also designed to give an insight into the kinds of employment sectors and jobs for which a postgraduate degree at Birmingham can prepare you.

Pursuing a postgraduate degree offers you the opportunity to explore your chosen area of interest in depth, as well as developing your understanding in a subject area about which you are truly passionate. Beyond the transferable skills that you will take with you into the workplace, your postgraduate qualification will give you the chance to deepen



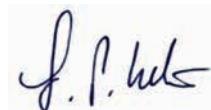
your knowledge, to become an effective scientific researcher, or become an expert in your field.

Here, we show you how your postgraduate qualification can help you make that knowledge and expertise work for you after graduation. For the School that is relevant to you, there will be a snapshot of the achievements of our postgraduates six months after graduation. All data is taken from the results of a 'Destination of Leavers' survey issued to our postgraduates after this time. You will be able to see how many of the postgraduates who replied to this survey successfully entered employment and/or further study within just six months, along with a range of the diverse and exciting career opportunities that will be open to you after studying for a postgraduate degree in the College of Medical and Dental Sciences.



Accompanying the data are case studies in which recent postgraduate alumni share their experiences of postgraduate study at Birmingham. Here, our alumni talk about the value inherent in postgraduate study, the knowledge and skills they developed during their degrees and where their qualifications have taken them since graduation.

I hope you find the information presented here useful and our alumni stories inspiring. We very much look forward to welcoming you to our campus soon.



Professor Steve Watson  
Head of Graduate School  
College of Medical and Dental Sciences



# College of Medical and Dental Sciences

THE COLLEGE OF MEDICAL AND DENTAL SCIENCES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM IS A **MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION** IN MEDICINE, MEDICAL SCIENCES, DENTISTRY, NURSING AND PHARMACY.

Bringing together healthcare-related research and education, the College consists of the following five schools: Cancer Sciences; Clinical and Experimental Medicine; Dentistry; Health and Population Sciences; and Immunity and Infection.

The principal base of the College lies immediately between the main campus of the University and the new Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Other key NHS Trust buildings are also on the same campus including Birmingham Women's Hospital and The Barber National Centre for Mental Health. The College is at the forefront of medical, pharmacy, health and dentistry research. We deliver world-leading research activities to develop and nurture excellence in basic and clinical science, and to ultimately improve human health.

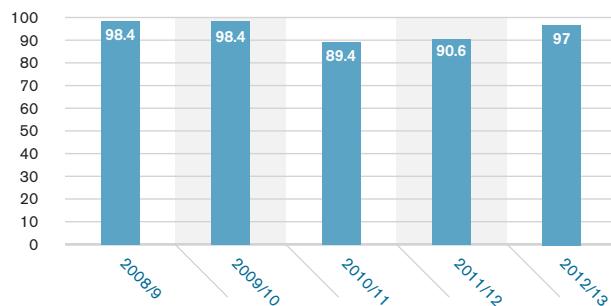
With over 800 researchers and in excess of £60 million research funding per year, our College represents a major international centre for biomedical research. Our programmes are delivered by some of the UK's most respected clinicians and health professionals, providing you with the best possible learning experience.

Over the last five years, 94.8% of taught postgraduates and 97.5% of research postgraduates from the College of Medical and Dental Sciences have been in work and/or further study just six months after graduating.

The two charts to the right show the breakdown of these statistics for each year, for taught postgraduate and research postgraduate respondents:

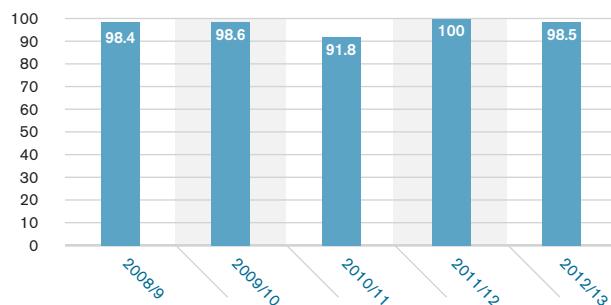
## Taught postgraduate destinations

Percentage of Medical and Dental Sciences taught postgraduates in work and/or further study six months after graduation



## Research postgraduate destinations

Percentage of Medical and Dental Sciences research postgraduates in work and/or further study six months after graduation



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'My PhD was completed on a part-time basis at the School of Dentistry. My research project investigated the effects of stress hormones upon the bacteria associated with periodontal disease and was supervised by Professor Iain Chapple and Dr John Matthews.

'In addition to the expertise of both my supervisors, I had the opportunity to work with colleagues at other higher education institutions including the University of Leicester, University of Nottingham and the Forsyth Institute in Boston.

The support and opportunities afforded to me, both within Birmingham and externally, were of the highest quality and fundamental to my experience. Each individual component of my thesis was challenging and extremely rewarding and I am proud to have this research training and qualification on my CV. There is no doubt that the foundations established at Birmingham have shaped my career success.'

**Anthony Roberts, PhD Dentistry,** graduated 2006. *Anthony is now Director of Undergraduate Education, Professor of Dental Education and Honorary Consultant in Restorative Dentistry at the University of Manchester.*

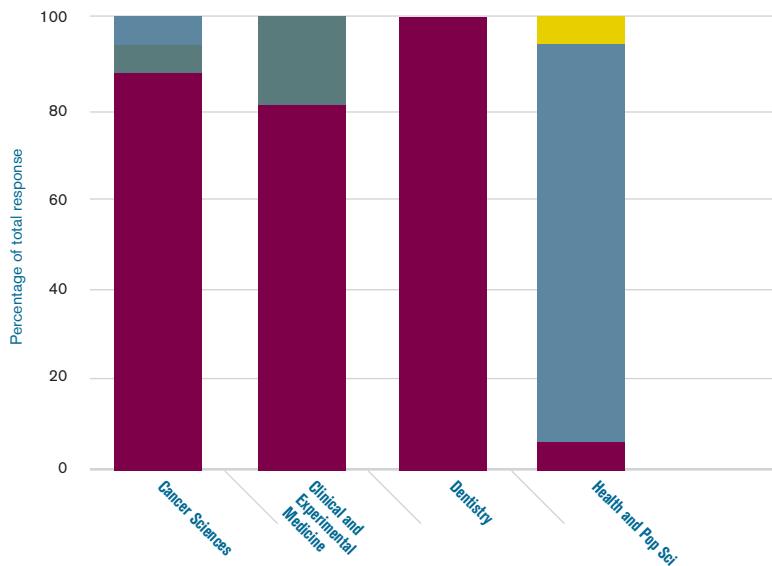
# College of Medical and Dental Sciences

The following charts summarise the destinations of Medical and Dental Sciences postgraduates from the 2012/13 academic year, six months after graduation.\*

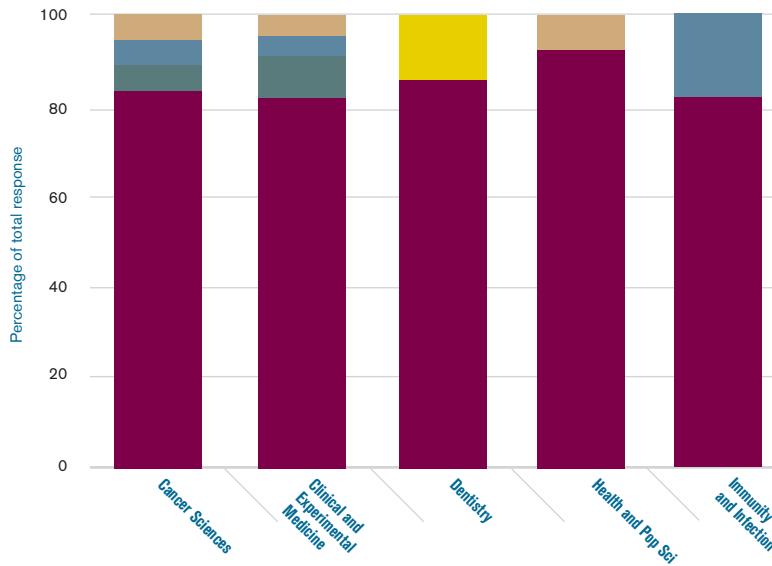
## Taught postgraduate destinations



No data available for Immunity and Infection.



## Research postgraduate destinations



'I started my three years of PhD study as a mature student at the Biomaterials Unit in the School of Dentistry at Birmingham. As well as the fantastic academic training, the community within the School was very international and the close interaction between students and staff gave me many opportunities to explore and enrich my experience of British culture. As my PhD project

was quite interdisciplinary, involving both materials sciences and cell biology, it was in some ways quite challenging to begin with. Nevertheless, this made it very rewarding in terms of developing my skills in problem solving, rational thinking and communication. These skills and the experience I gained enabled me to pursue a career within scientific research and I gained a position as a postdoctoral researcher after completing my PhD. Papers published from my PhD work have been highly recognised by peers both nationally and internationally within the scientific

community working on the application of stem cells in bone tissue engineering.'

**Yang Liu, PhD Dentistry, graduated 2005**  
Yang is now Senior Lecturer in Healthcare Engineering at the Wolfson School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, Loughborough University.

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# Dentistry

MANY OF OUR TAUGHT POSTGRADUATES IN DENTISTRY ARE GENERAL DENTAL PRACTITIONERS AND PRIMARY CARE DENTISTS WHO WISH TO ENHANCE THEIR CLINICAL SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE.

## Highlights

Over the past five years:

- 100% of taught postgraduate respondents from Dentistry successfully found work or further study within six months of graduation
- 94.9% of research postgraduate respondents from Dentistry were in work or further study six months after graduation

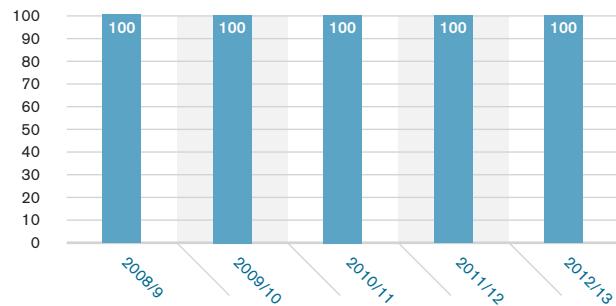
Many taught postgraduates from Dentistry continue to progress their careers in the field after completing their postgraduate qualification.

A large number of our postgraduate researchers progress to senior roles in dentistry and orthodontics, some specialising in their chosen research area. Many others use the research skills and experience gained during their PhD to secure positions in academic teaching and dental research.

The two charts to the right show results from Destination of Leavers surveys for our Dentistry postgraduates over the past five years:

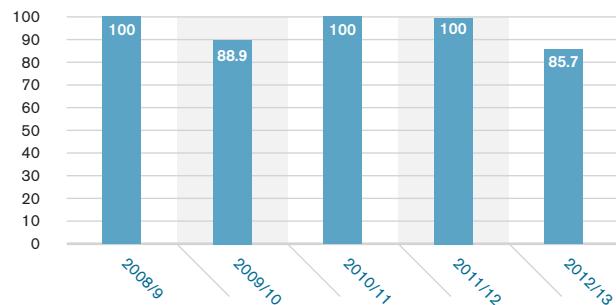
## Taught postgraduate destinations

Percentage of taught postgraduate respondents in work and/or further study six months after graduation



## Research postgraduate destinations

Percentage of research postgraduate respondents in work and/or further study six months after graduation

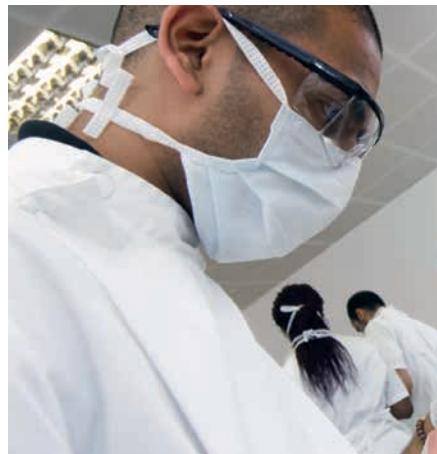


## FIRST DESTINATIONS OF DENTISTRY POSTGRADUATES

Below is an overview of the kinds of employment sectors, organisations and professions that recent Cancer Sciences postgraduates have entered, based on a survey conducted six months after graduation.

### Range of employment sectors

- Activities of business, employers and professional membership organisations
- Dental practice activities
- Higher education
- Hospital activities
- Medical practice activities
- Other human health activities



### Range of employers

- 3M ESPE (dental products)
- Ashgate Dental Practice
- Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
- Belmont Orthodontics
- British Dental Association
- Denplan Ltd
- Guiseley Dental Care
- Hollywood Smile Ltd
- NHS Walsall
- Oasis Dental Care Ltd
- University of Birmingham



### Range of occupations

- Dentist
- Good Practice Scheme Assessor
- Lecturer
- Orthodontist
- Principal Dental Surgeon
- Research Management and Governance Facilitator
- Senior Specialist Registrar
- Specialist Registrar in Paediatric Dentistry
- Technician
- Tutor – Dental Practice

