

## Dermatology Assessment Blueprint

Curriculum area	Competence	Specialist Exam	Mini-CEX	DOPS	MSF	CBD	PS
<b>2. CONTENT OF LEARNING</b>							
<b>1. Skin Biology</b>							
<b>Objective - To provide the trainee with the knowledge of the structure and function of normal skin. The trainee will be able to explain the consequences of skin diseases and the means by which treatment may be effective</b>							
K	Describe anatomy, physiology, immunology, biochemistry and molecular biology of normal skin.	●					
	Describe alterations of these in disease states	●				●	
	Describe principles of epidemiology in relation to skin disease	●					
S	Applies knowledge of skin biology when assessing patients					●	
	Selects appropriate therapy on the basis of skin biology	●	●			●	
A	Recognises importance of basic skin biology for understanding changes in skin in health and disease		●		●	●	
<b>2. General Dermatology</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to carry out specialist assessment and management of a patient presenting with a dermatosis in both an inpatient and outpatient hospital setting</b>							
K	Describe the clinical features and management of primary skin diseases and other diseases presenting with cutaneous manifestations	●	●			●	
	Identify different presentations of skin disease	●	●			●	
	Describe appropriate investigations for different presentations of skin disease	●	●			●	
	Identify accurate and current treatments appropriate to skin disease	●	●			●	
S	Perform detailed and reliable history taking and recording of appropriate details		●			●	
	Demonstrates detailed and correct physical examination, including skin, integument, mucous membranes and other relevant body systems		●				
	Selects appropriate investigations	●	●			●	
	Formulate accurate, complete and appropriate differential diagnosis	●	●			●	
	Selects appropriate treatment plan	●	●			●	
	Communicates treatment plan to patient or relatives/carers		●		●		●
A	Recognises potentially serious skin disease.		●		●	●	

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	Recognises urgency of patients requiring immediate assessment and treatment, and differentiates from non-urgent		●		●	●	
	Recognises own limits and chooses appropriately when to ask for help		●		●	●	
<b>3. Dermatopathology</b>							
<b>Objective - To be able to correctly interpret a written dermatopathology report and to offer discussion and differential diagnosis of the described distinguishing histological features. To be able to recognise the microscopic features of diseases of the skin. To be able to choose a range of laboratory techniques to optimise diagnostic accuracy</b>							
K	Define the normal histology of the skin at different sites of the body.	●				●	
	Identify categories of disease process affecting the skin including types of inflammation, degeneration, neoplasia and genodermatoses	●				●	
	Describe histological features of individual skin diseases	●	●			●	
	Explain the relationship of biopsy procedure to histological artefact	●				●	
	Define correct handling of specimens, including fixation, transport medium	●				●	
	Outline histological laboratory techniques, including special stains and immunochemistry, and their value in specific diseases	●				●	
S	Evaluates histological skin slide, giving appropriate differential diagnosis	●	●			●	
	Discusses appropriate differential diagnoses with histopathology team		●			●	
	Interprets special stains/ immunohistochemistry correctly	●	●			●	
A	Regularly reviews own biopsy specimens with histopathologist					●	
	Recognises importance of histopathology in appropriate cases					●	
	Participates actively in departmental clinicopathological review				●	●	
<b>4a. Contact Dermatitis and Occupational Dermatoses</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to investigate, diagnose and manage patients with contact dermatitis and contact urticaria. The trainee will also be able to investigate, diagnose and manage patients with common occupational dermatoses</b>							
K	Explain mechanisms involved in allergic and irritant contact dermatitis.	●				●	
	Define the investigation of contact dermatitis within an occupational setting		●			●	
	Explain the indications for patchtesting	●	●			●	
	Identify allergens within the ESS (or British) batteries	●	●				
	Describe contraindications to patchtesting	●	●			●	

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	State limitations of patch test results	●	●			●	
	Explain use of control patients	●				●	
S	Performs thorough history taking in patients with suspected contact dermatitis		●				
	Formulates appropriate pre-patch test diagnosis		●			●	
	Selects appropriate allergens for patch testing		●			●	
	Demonstrates application of patch tests and instructions of patients during the patch test procedure		●	●			
	Interprets patch test results		●			●	
	Communicates test results to patients		●		●		
	Discusses preparation of specific products for patch testing		●			●	
	Demonstrates use of repeated open application test			●			
	Performs contact urticaria and prick testing safely			●			
A	Recognises use of patch testing in the assessment of suspected contact dermatitis		●			●	
	Contributes to multidisciplinary team including specialist nurses and pharmacy				●	●	
	Chooses appropriate patients for patch testing and recognises importance of results		●			●	
<b>4b. Preparation of Department of Social Security and medico legal reports</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to assess patients for DSS and medicolegal claims and write appropriate reports</b>							
K	Explain legal issues of how and when to examine a patient on behalf of the court.					●	
	Explain the duty of the consultant to the court	●				●	
	Define the appropriate contents of a medico legal / DSS report	●				●	
S	Performs appropriate history and examination in medicolegal setting					●	
	Prepares appropriate written report					●	
A	Recognises importance of consultant accuracy in medico legal system					●	

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<b>4c. Prick and intradermal testing</b>							
<b>Objective- The trainee will be able to evaluate patients for contact urticaria and type I hypersensitivity and perform prick testing safely</b>							
K	Define indications for prick testing	●	●			●	
	Explain mandatory precautions	●	●			●	
	Outline resuscitation techniques	●	●			●	
	Identify precautions necessary for latex allergic patients	●				●	
S	Performs procedures for testing for suspected contact urticaria and type I hypersensitivity			●			
A	Recognises dangers of prick testing					●	
<b>5a. Paediatric Dermatology</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to investigate, diagnose and treat children with skin disease</b>							
K	Describe skin diseases common/specific to infancy and childhood.	●				●	
	Define childhood manifestations of skin disease	●				●	
	Identify paediatric specific pharmacology/prescribing	●	●			●	
	Explain growth and diet monitoring		●			●	
	Justify history taking from parents		●			●	
	Mechanisms of disease specific to childhood	●					
	Outlines relevant community and social service agencies	●	●			●	
S	Practices good history taking from parents and their children		●				
	Performs examination of skin/ integument/ relevant systems of newborn/infant/ child		●				
	Communicates treatment plan to parents and children of all ages		●		●		●
A	Participates in family orientated diagnosis and treatment. Consults paediatric colleagues		●		●		●
<b>5b. Genetics</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to diagnose and treat genetic skin disease and appreciate importance of genetic counselling</b>							
K	Recall modes of inheritance	●				●	
	Define molecular mechanisms of inherited disease	●				●	
	Explain risk of affected pregnancy in genetic disease	●				●	

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	Describe methods of prenatal diagnosis	●				●	
S	Performs complete family history to determine mode of inheritance		●			●	
	Communicates risk of affected pregnancy to parents clearly		●			●	●
A	Consults colleagues in clinical genetics appropriately				●	●	
<b>6a. Dermatological Surgery: Skin surgery</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to surgically treat benign and malignant skin disease safely and effectively</b>							
K	describe cutaneous anatomy from the skin surface down to muscle fascia, and the surface anatomy of the head and neck	●				●	
	identify in detail named blood vessels and nerves of the head, neck, and other body sites, where these lie between the skin, and muscle or muscle fascia	●				●	
	knowledge of safe and effective local anaesthesia for skin surgery including regional anaesthesia	●				●	
	identify the surgical options for treating individual skin lesions at all body sites, including surgical margin required	●				●	
	Justify micrographic surgery	●				●	
	identify suturing techniques for wound repair	●				●	
	define the indications for direct closure, skin graft repair, repair using random pattern skin flaps	●				●	
	identify complications of skin surgery, including medico-legal aspects	●				●	
S	accurate evaluation of surgical options for individual skin lesions		●			●	
	performs the following surgical procedures safely and effectively: 1 cryotherapy 2 skin biopsy and nail biopsy 3 curettage with and without cautery 4 shave excision 5 full thickness skin excision and direct closure using sub-cuticular sutures and skin sutures 6 dog ear repair				●		●
	demonstrates competence at performing these procedures on the head, neck, trunk, and limbs				●		●
A	participates in surgical audit						

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	recognises limits of own skill				●		
	consults with plastic surgeon appropriately				●	●	
<b>6b Cutaneous Laser Surgery</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to refer patients appropriately for laser surgery</b>							
K	Describe the characteristics of laser light and basic laser-skin interactions	●					
	Describe basic laser safety procedures relevant to cutaneous laser therapy	●					
	Describe the principal output characteristics of lasers commonly used for cutaneous disorders	●					
	Identify cutaneous disorders suitable for laser treatment	●				●	
	Identify circumstances where laser treatment would be hazardous	●				●	
S	Discusses benefits and risks of laser surgery in different clinical situations					●	
	Demonstrates appropriate counselling to patients considering laser therapy				●		●
A	Recognises possible benefits and limitations of laser therapy					●	
	Communicates with laser specialist surgeons				●	●	
<b>6c Cosmetic dermatology</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to advise patients considering cosmetic treatment. The trainee will be able to diagnose and manage patients with complications of cosmetic therapy</b>							
K	Describe techniques for cosmetic camouflage of skin lesions.	●				●	
	Describe complications of cosmetic treatments	●				●	
S	Discuss side effects of cosmetic treatments					●	
	Assess complications of cosmetic treatments					●	
A	Recognises complications of cosmetic treatments.					●	
	Recognises limitations of cosmetic therapy					●	

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<b>7a Photodermatology and Photodiagnosis</b>							
<b>The trainee will be able to diagnose and manage patients with a photosensitive disease</b>							
K	State clinical features of the photosensitive disorders	●					
	Describe indications for phototesting and photo patchtesting	●					
	Describe appropriate range of investigations for photosensitive patient	●					
	Define procedure for phototesting and photo patchtesting	●					
	Outline treatment of photosensitive disorders	●				●	
S	Detects patient with photosensitivity disorder	●				●	
	Performs appropriate history and examination of photosensitive patient		●			●	
	Demonstrates administration of phototesting and photo patchtesting			●			
	Interprets results of testing	●				●	
	Communicates diagnosis and treatment of photosensitive disorders to patient and other health professionals		●		●		●
A	Recognises possibility of photosensitivity in appropriate patients					●	
<b>7b Phototherapy and photochemotherapy</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to select appropriate patients for phototherapy and photochemotherapy. The trainee will be able to deliver and supervise phototherapy and photochemotherapy services</b>							
K	State indications and contraindications for phototherapy and photochemotherapy	●				●	
	Define which form of therapy should be used and its delivery (eg topical, local, systemic, broadband UVB, Narrow band UVB, PUVA)	●				●	
	Explain ultraviolet dosimetry and treatment regimens	●				●	
	State adverse effects of different forms of therapy	●				●	
	Define management of patients who have had large numbers of UV treatments	●				●	
	Explain how to set up a new service	●					
	Discuss new developments in phototherapy	●					
	Describe indications for, use of, and complications of photodynamic therapy	●					●

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S	Communicate risks and benefits of different forms of therapy to patients						●
	Selects appropriate treatment regimens	●					●
	Evaluates patients failing to respond to treatment		●				
	Evaluates patients developing adverse events		●				
A	Contributes to multidisciplinary team including phototherapy nurses, medical physics and doctors				●	●	
	Recognises limits of different forms of therapy				●	●	
<b>8. Genitourinary Medicine</b>							
<b>The trainee will be able to detect sexually transmitted infection (STI) in patients presenting to dermatology, and refer appropriately to a Genitourinary Clinic</b>							
K	Define cutaneous manifestations of STIs	●					
	Explain clinical features, investigation, diagnosis and management of STIs, including genital HPV, candidosis, genital herpes, gonorrhoea, syphilis, HIV AIDS	●				●	
	Explain process of HIV testing	●				●	
	Explain patient confidentiality	●				●	
	Identify clinical features of premalignant and malignant diseases of the genitalia	●				●	
	Explain contact tracing in STI	●				●	
S	Perform sexual history taking appropriately and thoroughly		●			●	
	Demonstrate appropriate physical examination		●			●	
	Evaluate accurate differential diagnosis		●			●	
	Explain need for HIV testing		●			●	
A	Recognise requirements of patient confidentiality				●	●	
	Chooses to refer patients to STI clinic appropriately				●	●	
<b>9. Infectious diseases and infestations of the skin</b>							
<b>The trainee will be able to diagnose and manage viral, bacterial, fungal and parasitic infections of the skin</b>							
K	Define the clinical features, investigation and management of infections of the skin and systemic infections with cutaneous manifestations.	●				●	
	State normal skin flora and potential pathogens	●				●	

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Curriculum area	Competence	Specialist Exam	Mini-CEX	DOPS	MSF	CBD	PS
	State clinical features of infections in immunocompromised patients	●				●	
	Describe clinical features of infections acquired abroad	●				●	
	Explain the mechanism of action, use, dosage and adverse effects of antimicrobial therapy	●				●	
	State local systems to deal with outbreaks of infection within hospital or community	●				●	
S	Perform appropriate history and examination		●			●	
	Selects and performs appropriate testing, including obtaining appropriate microbiological samples	●	●			●	
	Communicate likely success of treatment and prognosis to patients		●				●
	Interpret microscopic findings of out patient preparations of skin scrapings to diagnose fungal or scabetic infections		●	●			
A	Consult with reference laboratory appropriately				●	●	
	Recognise the importance of and communicate with infection control team				●	●	
<b>10. Radiotherapy and dermatological Oncology : Skin oncology</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will have the knowledge, skills, experience and confidence to diagnose and to stage all primary malignant disease of the skin. They will be able to surgically treat T1 BCC's, T1 SCC's, and T1a/b melanomas</b>							
K	Describe the common clinical and histopathological features of primary skin cancer, and be able to accurately distinguish benign from malignant skin disease	●	●			●	
	Define current methods of molecular analysis in diagnosis and treatment of skin cancer	●				●	
	Define the current AJCC or other approved staging systems for melanoma, non-melanoma skin cancer, and skin lymphoma	●				●	
	State common patterns of loco-regional and distant metastatic spread due to melanoma, non- melanoma skin cancer, and skin lymphoma	●				●	
	Explain the principles as they apply to skin oncology for topical chemotherapy, cryotherapy, photodynamic therapy, surgical treatment margin, radiotherapy, including orthovoltage and electron radiotherapy, chemotherapy, and immunotherapy	●					●

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	Define the indications in skin oncology for topical chemotherapy, cryotherapy, photodynamic therapy, surgery including excision and direct closure, skin reconstruction using random pattern flaps, split thickness and full thickness skin grafts, and micrographic surgery, radiotherapy, and chemotherapy, and immunotherapy	●				●	
	Define the risks and benefits in skin oncology of topical chemotherapy, cryotherapy, photodynamic therapy, surgery including excision and direct closure, skin reconstruction using random pattern flaps, split thickness and full thickness skin grafts, and micrographic surgery, radiotherapy, and chemotherapy, and immunotherapy	●				●	
	State skin cancer clinical trial methodology and outcome measures of response and survival	●				●	
	Explain the requirements for compliance with the 2006 National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence guidance for skin cancer	●				●	
	Define the requirements and approach for breaking bad news, including use of local policies, and the role of the skin oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist	●				●	
S	Take an accurate history, and accurately and competently examine all patients with primary malignant disease of the skin		●			●	
	Demonstrate competent excision of skin lesions for diagnosis			●			
	Integrate clinical and pathological findings to ensure safe and accurate clinico-pathological correlation	●				●	
	Accurately and consistently diagnose primary malignant disease of the skin		●				
	Accurately and consistently diagnose loco-regional and distant metastatic skin cancer		●				
	demonstrate full understanding of the role of the Skin Oncology Multi-disciplinary Team, its composition and operational policies	●			●	●	
	Construct a treatment plan for all primary malignant disease of the skin, and present this to a Skin Cancer Multi-disciplinary Team Meeting		●				
Obtain informed consent for surgical procedures required for treating T1 BCC's, T1 SCC's, and T1a/b melanomas, including all common risks and all serious risks				●		●	
A	Participates in and contributes to skin oncology MDT meetings		●			●	
	Recognises limits of own skills				●	●	
	Participates in and contributes to audit						

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	Is familiar with recent clinical advances, and current National Cancer Research Institute skin cancer trials	●					
<b>11. Dressings and wound care</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to diagnose and manage ulceration of the skin and post surgical skin wounds</b>							
K	Describe the clinical features, investigation, differential diagnosis, and management of skin ulceration.	●				●	
	Describe the clinical features, investigation and management of leg ulceration	●				●	
	Define features of venous and arterial leg ulceration	●				●	
	Describe the clinical features, investigation and management of skin blistering disease	●				●	
	Describe the clinical features, investigation and management of ulceration of the skin in association with diabetes	●				●	
	Describe the management of wounds created by dermatological surgery	●				●	
	Explain the use of topical and systemic antibiotic therapy in wound care	●				●	
	Explain the use of compression bandaging in leg ulceration	●				●	
	Define options for dressings and cost effectiveness	●				●	
	Explain desloughing techniques	●				●	
S	Perform adequate history and examination of patient with acute or chronic wound		●			●	
	Perform and interpret Doppler pressure examination of leg		●	●		●	
	Perform and interpret pulse oximetry examination		●	●		●	
	Evaluate suitability for compression bandaging		●			●	
	Evaluate suitability for appropriate dressing		●			●	
A	Consults nursing members of wound care team				●	●	
	Consults colleagues in vascular surgery appropriately				●	●	

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<b>12. Dermatological Formulation and systemic therapy</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to safely prescribe and monitor systemic therapy for skin disease, including the use of systemic immunomodulatory agents. The trainee will be able to appropriately prescribe topical therapy</b>							
K	State mode of action, indications, side effects, drug interactions, safe monitoring, duration of therapy of topical and systemic agents used in skin disease.	●				●	
	Describe quantity of topical therapy required for different body areas	●				●	
	Explain choice of base for topical therapy	●				●	
	Describe stability and shelf life of different preparations	●					
S	Communicate risks and benefits of systemic therapy to patients		●			●	
	Evaluate effectiveness of new treatments	●				●	
	Perform literature search for adverse drug event		●	●		●	
A	Recognise importance of new therapies				●	●	
	Consult relevant journals regarding new therapies				●	●	
	Consult with hospital pharmacy drug information				●	●	
<b>13. Dermatology and Primary Health Care</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to Communicate appropriately with Primary Health Care Physicians for the benefit of both patient and General Practitioner</b>							
K	Describe the organisation, problems and expectations present in Primary Health Care.	●					
	Identify presentation and management of dermatological problems in the primary care setting	●					
	Describe the organisation of a Health Care Centre	●					
	Explain the process of referral from primary to secondary care	●					
	State the role of practice nurses, district nurses and health visitors in the care of patients with chronic skin problems	●					
S	Evaluates priority of GP referral letters appropriately		●				
	Communicates with GP by telephone, providing advice or arranging for patients to be seen		●				
	Communicates with GP appropriately following consultations with patients		●				
A	Recognises importance of good communication between primary and secondary care				●		

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<b>14. Psychodermatology</b>							
<b>Objective - The trainee will be able to diagnose serious or incidental psychiatric morbidity in patients presenting with or being followed up for skin disease</b>							
K	Describe psychiatric differential diagnosis in skin disease	●				●	
	Define features of depression, and risk factors for suicide	●				●	
	Describe clinical features of psychodermatoses	●				●	
	Define the basic use of antidepressants, tranquilisers and antipsychotics	●				●	
	Describe structure of liaison services to psychiatry and addiction	●				●	
S	Perform a psychiatric history		●			●	
	Perform a mental state examination		●			●	
	Evaluate risk of suicide in a patient		●			●	
A	Consults psychiatric team appropriately				●	●	