

Education and training of biomedical scientist in the United Kingdom

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Abstract

The development of education and training of Biomedical Scientists (BMS) in the UK will be outlined.

The professional body, the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS) has been accrediting University Degrees since 1975 and currently there are some 38 accredited BSc degrees, 19 Post graduate certificates or diplomas and 45 MSc. courses available in the UK. Throughout this process there has been extensive involvement of the profession with the Universities in defining course content and delivery of specialist modules.

The emerging role of the practitioners of Biomedical

Science to their present level and the possible future of this profession will be presented.

Everyone who works in Pathology will be aware of the enormous technological advances that have been made in laboratory equipment. This together with the knowledge that has led not only to more sophisticated methods for the laboratory diagnosis of disease but in the emergence of new specialties.

The preparation of undergraduate courses to equip future BMS and their training to deliver the service with mechanisms ensuring fitness for purpose have developed over the years and will continue into the future. The need to develop advanced programs of education for the Specialist Biomedical Scientist gives an indication of the future needs of Pathology services.