

WHAT ABOUT A CAREER IN DERMATOLOGY?

What is Dermatology?

Dermatology is the study and treatment of hair, skin and nail disorders. It is a fascinating career choice. Skin disease constitutes 20-25% of primary care consultations, being the commonest reason for patients to present to their general practitioner. The number of possible conditions has been estimated at over 2000, each of which can present in numerous ways.

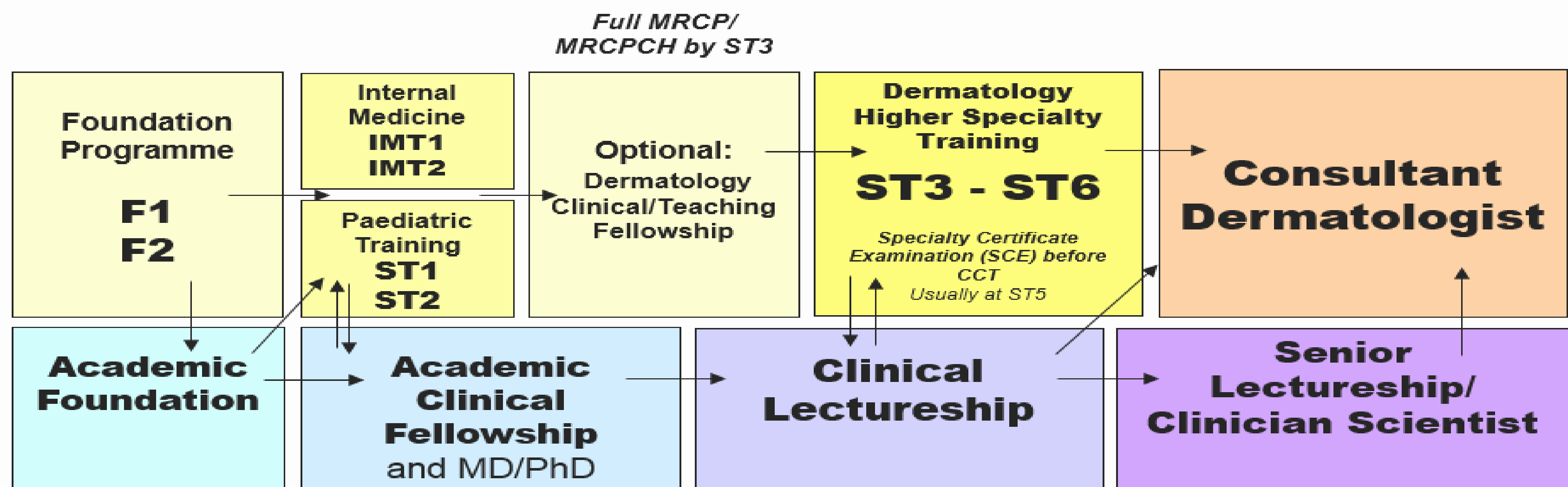
Nature of the Work

Dermatology is one of the most varied physicianly specialties, seeing all age groups with all types of skin disorders: inflammatory, genetic, occupational and malignant. This allows for a breadth of subspecialty training such as in contact dermatitis, surgery, lasers, paediatrics, photobiology, psychodermatology, genital dermatology and skin oncology, to name but a few.



Training Pathway in Dermatology

Entry to dermatology specialist training begins after internal medicine or paediatric training.



Opportunities in Academic Dermatology

Dermatology lends itself perfectly to an academic career with research initiatives translating into real clinical practice.

Opportunities to get involved include:

The BAD THESIS course BAD / NIHR funded research taster fellowships UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network.

What can I do to increase my chances?

- Gain clinical exposure
- Attend meetings and courses (e.g. DermSchool)
- Complete audits or research projects
- Write publications

Approach consultants in your local department for more advice