

# Section C: Research FAQs

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## **I have already undertaken/am currently undertaking something innovative in the workplace; can I use it for C1?**

The answer to this depends on whether you are using the work for something else. Essentially the rule is if you have already used some work for another qualification (e.g. MSc) or published it, using it again would be self-plagiarism. Using something you have already started implementing which could be adapted for the purposes of the innovation project is fine as long as it hasn't been used for any other academic work. If you are in doubt at all, highlight it on your proforma or talk to the HSST lead at your University.

## **I already have a PhD and/or FRCPath part 2, do I still need to do C1?**

Yes, all HSST trainees must complete the innovation project C1 regardless of what other qualifications/experience they may have.

## **How do I know who my supervisor will be?**

For both C1 and C2, you will have a workplace supervisor and an academic supervisor. When you submit the proforma for each part of Section C, you will need to nominate a workplace supervisor. As part of your proforma approval process, a suitable academic supervisor will be allocated to you, and you will be notified alongside your project approval. Please note: you may not be allocated the same project supervisor for C1 and C2, even if both projects are in the same area.

## **As the innovation project is theoretical, can we look at a radical innovation for the project?**

You can, however, as part of the innovation project you will need to write a business case and write about the obstacles to implementation. This might be harder with a more radical innovation.

## **When will the oral presentation be?**

The date of the oral presentation is still being set, in liaison with the National School of Healthcare Science (NSHCS). We will co-ordinate the date setting with different specialisms to try and avoid any major conferences etc.

## **Why is there a delay between the written submission and the oral presentation?**

It is designed so that you receive feedback on your written work ahead of delivering your oral presentation. This means that if you wish to make minor adjustments ahead of presenting your work, you can do so.

## If I'm doing C2 in a similar subject area to C1, won't I be repeating the Literature Review?

In line with PhDs, it is OK if you use your C1 literature review as the basis for the literature review for your C2 project. The C1 literature review will need to be expanded and updated to meet the requirements of the C2 project and ensure it includes any very recent and relevant literature published after submission of C1. If you have any concerns when you get to C2, talk to your academic supervisor.

## Will I receive a mark for Section C?

C1 will be marked as Pass/Fail and C2 will be marked in a similar way to a PhD e.g. awarded, awarded with minor amendments etc. You will not receive Merits or Distinctions for your work. However, you will receive feedback which should indicate to you how well you have passed each area.

## How does C2 fit in with FRCPATH Part 2 exams?

MAHSE are working with the NSHCS and the Royal College of Pathologists to ensure that Life Scientists will be able to complete FRCPATH Part 2 exams, where necessary. We will update all trainees once these discussions are complete.

If you already have a PhD or FRCPATH Part 2, you **cannot** use this to fulfil the research component of the DClinSci. In order for your University to award the DClinSci, you must have completed a research project undertaken within and as part of the award. Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) cannot be applied to research.