

Introduction

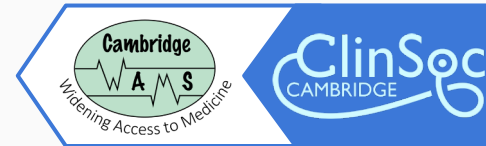
Dr Fiona Cooke

SubDean

University of Cambridge School of Medicine

My background

- state school educated in Nottingham
- parents didn't go to university
- someone at my comprehensive school had been to Girton
- applied to Cambridge to study medicine
- 3 years Girton College, 3 years Oxford : **BM BCh**
- **MA PhD MSc FRCP FRCPATH DTM&H**



Now...

- Consultant microbiologist at Addenbrookes Hospital
- SubDean at clinical school
- Regional and national roles
- Fellow at Girton College
- Director of Studies, interviewed for medicine since 2003
- Passionate about medicine and access

Do you want to be a doctor?

- hard work, very rewarding
- sound scientific understanding
- applied science and human interactions
- life-long learning
- rich, varied and continually changing environment
- high job satisfaction

Variety of career opportunities

- GP or hospital consultant specialist
- pure research
- medical policy
- medical journalism
- pharmaceuticals / drug development
- Armed Forces
- work abroad – medical expeditions
- medical TV / radio star!



How to find out if you want to be a doctor?

- Do you like science?
- Do you like people and team work?
- Are you committed and motivated for a long, demanding 5 years minimum training (never mind being a doctor)
- Talk to family / teachers / others

WORK EXPERIENCE

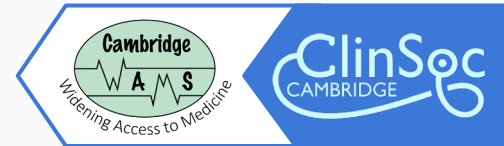
- not just for your personal statement, but for YOU
- hospital doctors / GPs / nurses / pharmacists / midwives / physios / dieticians / health visitors etc
- Regular volunteering e.g. old people's homes; disabled children
- **THINK ABOUT IT!**

Is the Cambridge course for you?

- Very scientific
- Very demanding
- Write lots of essays
- Not everything you study will seem relevant
- All lectures in departments in town
- Supervisions (small groups) in college
- Will not see patients until year 4...

Getting in!

- GCSE results / A levels / predicted A level grades
- school references
- personal statement
- BMAT (Biomedical Admissions Test)
- interviews
- We will try and put everything into context, and find out more about you as an individual, as we want the best people who apply



Interviews

- PREPARE: practice with people you don't know, expand on your personal statement, current A level topics
- think about current medical issues
- read the papers / look at bbc website
- a lot of this you should be doing anyway!
- ON THE DAY: try to make you feel at ease
- we will push you, as we want to see how you think!

Summary

- different 6th formers have different opportunities
- 'reflect' on what you read and see
- attend any events to do with health
- find out as much as you can to help make the right decision for YOU (websites / emails)
- if you think you might like it, give it a go!

Thank you and good luck!

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