

11 July 2016

Dear practitioner

## Consultation on proposed changes to prescribed qualifications

The Dental Council (the Council) has undertaken educational reviews of two dental specialist programmes during 2015, and granted accreditation to the following programmes not previously accredited by the Council:

- University of Otago Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Surgery
- Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology.

The Council is also using this opportunity to update the descriptions of the Australian prescribed qualifications in all the relevant New Zealand scopes of practice. The changes aim to accurately reflect the Dental Board of Australia's function to approve programmes of study for the dental profession, which lead to registration as a dental practitioner in Australia. This is purely administrative in nature and does not impact on the eligibility of any Australian qualifications.

In accordance with sections 12 and 14 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003, the Council is consulting with the sector on the notice, detailing the proposed changes to the prescribed qualifications. We are inviting comment from all oral health practitioners, relevant associations and societies, the Ministry of Health, District Health Boards, educational institutions and other organisations with an interest in this area. The consultation document is also available on our website, with a similar invitation to comment.

## Submissions

All submissions received will be published on the Council's website shortly after receipt, and will remain there as a public document. All personal contact details will be removed from submissions. The Council holds the right not to publish any derogatory or inflammatory submissions.

As this is a public consultation, "in confidence" information will only be accepted under special circumstances. Please contact us before submitting material in confidence.

The submission period closes by end of business on **5 September 2016**.

Send your responses to:

Dental Council  
PO Box 10-448  
Wellington 6143

Fax: 04 499 1668  
Email: [consultations@dcnz.org.nz](mailto:consultations@dcnz.org.nz)

I am looking forward to receiving your feedback.

Yours sincerely



Marie Warner  
Chief Executive

# Consultation on proposed changes to prescribed qualifications

Issued: 11 July 2016

Submission closing date: 5 September 2016

# Proposed changes

## 1. Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Surgery accreditation

The University of Otago submitted its Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Surgery (DClinDent (oral surgery)) programme for accreditation.

The programme was reviewed against the Australian Dental Council/Dental Council (New Zealand) accreditation standards for dental specialist programmes, in accordance with the joint committee's accreditation process.

The site evaluation team (SET) members who conducted the review were:

- Associate Professor David Thomson (Chair) – (then) Academic Clinical Director, University of Queensland, Prosthodontist registered in Australia
- Dr David Chrisp – Oral Surgeon registered in New Zealand, Tauranga
- Dr Stephen Cox – Senior Lecturer and Head of Discipline of Oral Surgery, University of Sydney, Oral Surgeon registered in Australia
- Dr Don Macalister – Oral Surgeon registered in New Zealand, Auckland
- Mr John Robertson – Lay member, Strategic Projects Ltd, Auckland.

Following consideration of the accreditation report and the joint accreditation committee's recommendation, the Council accredited the University of Otago DClinDent (oral surgery) for five years, ending 31 December 2020.

The final accreditation report is available on the Council [website](#).

The Council is satisfied that the programme meets the educational standards to ensure competent graduates to practise oral surgery in New Zealand.

The Council is proposing to gazette the University of Otago DClinDent (oral surgery) programme as a prescribed qualification for the oral surgery scope of practice. The proposed prescribed qualification is reflected under oral surgery in *Attachment 1*.

## 2. Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology accreditation

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia requested the Council to accredit its fellowship in oral and maxillofacial pathology as a prescribed qualification for the New Zealand oral pathology scope of practice. The qualification has been accredited in Australia for a number of years.

A joint review was conducted with the Australian Dental Council, using the joint accreditation committee's standards and processes.

Due to the small number of registered oral pathologists across both jurisdictions and their membership of the College, an independent international site evaluation team member was appointed to the SET.

The SET comprised:

- Professor Newell W Johnson (Chair) - Griffith University Queensland, registered specialist in oral medicine, oral pathology and periodontics
- Professor David Wilson - Charles Sturt University New South Wales, registered specialist in oral pathology
- Dr Alec S High – University of Leeds, United Kingdom, specialist in oral and maxillofacial pathology.

Following consideration of the accreditation report, the Council was of the view that not all of the accreditation standards had been fully met. The College engaged with the Council on how to address the areas of concern identified. This resulted in some curriculum refinements, strengthening of the research assessment criteria to meet Level 9 of the New Zealand Qualifications Framework and an international peer review report.

The SET considered these changes and is now satisfied that all of the accreditation standards have been fully met. Following consideration of these changes by the joint accreditation committee, the Council granted accreditation to the programme until 31 December 2018.

The shorter accreditation period granted was to align with the Australian accreditation period to facilitate ongoing joint accreditation reviews, wherever possible.

The Council is satisfied that graduates from the programme are competent to practise oral pathology in New Zealand.

Accordingly, the Council is proposing to gazette the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology as a prescribed qualification for the oral pathology scope of practice. The proposed prescribed qualification is reflected under oral pathology in *Attachment 1*.

The Council wants to acknowledge the College's constructive approach to this process.

### 3. Update to Australian prescribed qualification descriptions

The Council is using this opportunity to make updates to all the Australian prescribed qualifications. The changes aim to accurately reflect the Dental Board of Australia's function to approve programmes of study since the introduction of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme. Approved programmes of study (not educational institutions) are accredited by the accreditation authority (the Australian Dental Council) and approved by the Dental Board of Australia. Successful completion of an approved programme leads to registration or endorsement as a dental practitioner in Australia.

The proposed changes to the prescribed qualifications are reflected in Attachment 1.

The Council considers this purely administrative in nature, with no impact on the eligibility of any approved qualifications.

## Consultation Questions

Stakeholders are invited to comment on the proposals by responding to the following questions:

- Q1. Do you agree/disagree with the proposed gazettement of the University of Otago DCLinDent (oral surgery) programme as a prescribed qualification for the oral surgery scope of practice? If you disagree, please detail why.
- Q2. Do you agree/disagree with the proposed gazettement of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology as a prescribed qualification for the oral pathology scope of practice? If you disagree, please detail why.
- Q3. Do you agree with the proposed changes to the description of the Australian prescribed qualifications, as reflected in Attachment 1? If you disagree, please detail why.

Red text reflects proposed changes to gazetted prescribed qualifications

## Prescribed qualifications for registration as a dental specialist

### Endodontic Specialists

- MDS (Endodontics) University of Otago
- DClinDent (Endodontics) University of Otago
- An ADC accredited MDS or MSc or DClinDent ~~degree programme~~ in endodontics<sup>1</sup> ~~from an ADC accredited dental school in Australia~~
- **A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in endodontics in Australia<sup>2</sup>**
- Two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Endodontic Specialist Examination

### Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialists

- MDS/MBChB (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery) University of Otago
- DClinDent (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery) University of Otago<sup>1</sup>
- An ADC accredited MDS or MSc or DClinDent ~~programme~~ in oral and maxillofacial surgery<sup>1</sup> ~~from an ADC accredited Australian University~~, **and** a medical degree from a medical school listed in the WHO World Directory of Medical Schools or the ECFMG Faimer Directory
- **A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in oral and maxillofacial surgery in Australia<sup>2</sup>, and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the WHO World Directory of Medical Schools or the ECFMG Faimer Directory**
- Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery)<sup>2</sup>
- Registration in oral and maxillofacial surgery with the General Medical Council, UK
- Board certification in oral and maxillofacial surgery in a USA or Canadian state and possession of a medical degree from a medical school listed in the WHO World Directory of Medical Schools or the ECFMG Faimer Directory and dental degree

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<sup>1</sup> Before 30 June 2010, and 17 October 2010 for Western Australia

<sup>2</sup> From 1 July 2010 onwards; and 18 October 2010 onwards for Western Australia

- Two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; and evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialist Examination

<sup>1</sup> Entry criteria require completed undergraduate dentistry and medical degrees

<sup>2</sup> Conferred from 15 March 2012

### Oral Medicine Specialists

- MDS/MBChB (Oral Medicine) University of Otago
- An ADC accredited MDS or MDS<sub>c</sub> or DClinDent programme degree<sup>1</sup> in oral medicine ~~from an ADC accredited dental school in Australia~~ and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the WHO World Directory of Medical Schools or the ECFMG Faimer Directory
- A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in oral medicine in Australia<sup>2</sup>, and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the WHO World Directory of Medical Schools or the ECFMG Faimer Directory
- Two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Oral Medicine Specialist Examination

### Oral Pathology Specialists

- MDS (Oral Pathology) University of Otago
- DClinDent (Oral Pathology) University of Otago
- An ADC accredited MDS or MDS<sub>c</sub> or DClinDent programme degree<sup>1</sup> in oral pathology ~~from an ADC accredited dental school in Australia~~
- A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in oral pathology in Australia<sup>2</sup>
- Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology from the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia<sup>3</sup>
- Two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Oral Pathology Specialist Examination

### Oral Surgery Specialists

- DClinDent (Oral surgery) University of Otago<sup>4</sup>
- Specialist registration as an oral surgeon with the Dental Council - ~~of~~ New Zealand as at 18 September 2004

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<sup>3</sup> Conferred from 2016

<sup>4</sup> Conferred from 2016

### Orthodontic Specialists

- MDS (Orthodontics) University of Otago
- DClinDent (Orthodontics) University of Otago
- An ADC accredited MDS or MDS<sup>c</sup> or DClinDent programme degree in orthodontics<sup>1</sup> ~~from an ADC accredited dental school in Australia~~
- A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in orthodontics in Australia<sup>2</sup>
- Two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Orthodontic Specialist Examination

### Paediatric Dentistry Specialists

- MDS (Paediatric Dentistry) University of Otago
- DClinDent (Paediatric Dentistry) University of Otago
- An ADC accredited MDS or MDS<sup>c</sup> or DClinDent programme degree in paediatric dentistry<sup>1</sup> ~~from an ADC accredited dental school~~
- A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in paediatric dentistry in Australia<sup>2</sup>
- Two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Paediatric Dentistry Specialist Examination

### Periodontic Specialists

- MDS (Periodontics) University of Otago
- DClinDent (Periodontics) University of Otago
- An ADC accredited MDS or MDS<sup>c</sup> or DClinDent programme degree in periodontics<sup>1</sup> ~~from an ADC accredited dental school in Australia~~
- A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in periodontics in Australia<sup>2</sup>
- Two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Periodontic Specialist Examination

### Prosthodontic Specialists

- MDS (Prosthodontics) University of Otago
- DClinDent (Prosthodontics) University of Otago



- An ADC accredited MDS or MDS<sup>c</sup> or DClinDent programme degree in prosthodontics<sup>1</sup> ~~from an ADC accredited dental school in Australia~~
- A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in prosthodontics in Australia<sup>2</sup>
- Certificate in Prosthodontics from a 3-year programme CDA accredited dental school in the USA or Canada and evidence of research activity
- Two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Prosthodontic Specialist Examination

#### Public Health Dentistry (or Community Dentistry) Specialists

- MComDent University of Otago
- An ADC accredited MDS or MDS<sup>c</sup> programme degree in public health dentistry<sup>1</sup> ~~from an ADC accredited dental school in Australia~~
- A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in public health in Australia<sup>2</sup>
- Two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Public Health Dentistry Specialist Examination

#### Restorative Dentistry Specialists

- Specialist registration as a Restorative Dentist with the Dental Council - ~~of~~ New Zealand as at 18 September 2004

#### Special Needs Dentistry Specialists

- MDS (Special Needs) University of Otago; or
- DClinDent (Special Needs) University of Otago; or
- An ADC accredited MDS or MDS<sup>c</sup> programme degree in special needs dentistry<sup>1</sup> ~~from an ADC accredited dental school in Australia~~
- A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in special needs in Australia<sup>2</sup>
- Two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Special Needs Dentistry Specialist Examination

## Prescribed qualifications for registration as a dentist

- Bachelor of Dental Surgery, University of Otago; or
- Bachelor of Dental Surgery with Honours, University of Otago; or
- an Australian Dental Council (ADC) accredited programme<sup>5</sup> ~~undergraduate dental degree from an ADC accredited dental school in Australia~~; or
- A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of registration in general dentistry in Australia<sup>6</sup>
- A Commission on Dental Accreditation (CDA) accredited undergraduate dental degree from a CDA accredited dental school in the USA or Canada; or
- A General Dental Council (GDC) accredited undergraduate dental degree from a GDC accredited dental school in the UK, or Commonwealth as listed below:

<u>Dental School</u>	<u>Dates of recognition</u>
Western Cape	Before 1 January 1998
Hong Kong	Before 1 January 2001
Singapore	Before 1 January 2001
Witwatersrand	Before 1 January 2001
Pretoria	Before 1 January 2001
Stellenbosch	Before 1 January 2001
Medical University of South Africa	Between 1 January 1997 And 31 December 2000
Malaysia	Between 1 January 1997 And 31 December 2000;

or

- a five year undergraduate dental degree; and a pass in the New Zealand Dental Registration Examinations; or
- a five year undergraduate dental degree; and a pass in the Australian Dental Council licensing examinations; or
- a five year undergraduate dental degree; and a pass in the USA licensing examinations.

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<sup>5</sup> Before 30 June 2010, and 17 October 2010 for Western Australia

<sup>6</sup> From 1 July 2010 onwards; and 18 October 2010 onwards for Western Australia

## Prescribed qualifications for registration as a dental therapist

1. Bachelor of Oral Health, University of Otago; or
2. Bachelor of Health Science in Oral Health, Auckland University of Technology; or
3. Certificate in Dental Therapy or Certificate in Dental Nursing (issued by the Department of Health or a New Zealand educational institution) and approved experience in the provision of dental therapy services within the scope of dental therapy practice (including interpreting periapical and bitewing radiographs under the direction and supervision of a dentist who can attest to competency) and evidence of successful completion of Dental Council approved courses for Pulpotomies and Stainless Steel Crowns and Radiography and Diagnostic Radiography (or an exemption certificate for radiography issued by the New Zealand Medical Radiation Technologists Board (MRTB) current as at 18 September 2004); or
4. Diploma in Dental Therapy (issued by a New Zealand educational institution) and approved experience in the provision of dental therapy services within the scope of dental therapy practice (including interpreting periapical and bitewing radiographs under the direction and supervision of a dentist who can attest to competency) and evidence of successful completion of Dental Council approved courses for Pulpotomies and Stainless Steel Crowns and Radiography and Diagnostic Radiography (excluding a Diploma in Dental Therapy issued by University of Otago or an exemption certificate for radiography issued by the New Zealand Medical Radiation Technologists Board (MRTB) current as at 18 September 2004); or
5. Bachelor of Health Science (Endorsement in Dental Therapy), University of Otago; or
6. ~~An Australian Dental Council accredited Undergraduate dental therapy degree or diploma from the Australian Dental Council or Dental Board of Australia accredited educational programme<sup>7</sup>~~ that included education in Pulpotomies, Stainless Steel Crowns, Radiography and Diagnostic Radiography and registration in Australia
7. A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of registration in dental therapy in Australia<sup>8</sup> that included education in Pulpotomies, Stainless Steel Crowns, Radiography and Diagnostic Radiography and registration in Australia; or
8. Undergraduate dental therapy degree or diploma, or an undergraduate dental degree; and a pass in the Dental Council Dental Therapy Registration Examination.

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<sup>7</sup> Before 30 June 2010, and 17 October 2010 for Western Australia

<sup>8</sup> From 1 July 2010 onwards; and 18 October 2010 onwards for Western Australia

## Prescribed qualifications for registration as a dental hygienist

1. Bachelor of Oral Health, University of Otago; or
2. Bachelor of Health Science in Oral Health, Auckland University of Technology; or
3. Certificate in Dental Hygiene issued by Otago Polytechnic and approved experience in the provision of oral health services within the scope of dental hygiene practice; and Dental Council approved courses for Administering Local Anaesthetic, Undertaking Orthodontic Procedures, Intra-oral Radiography and Extra-oral Radiography; or
4. New Zealand Defence Force training programme in Dental Hygiene and approved experience in the provision of oral health services within the scope of dental hygiene practice; and Dental Council approved courses for Administering Local Anaesthetic, Undertaking Orthodontic Procedures, Intra-oral Radiography and Extra-oral Radiography; or
5. Diploma in Dental Hygiene issued by a New Zealand educational institution; and Dental Council approved courses for Administering Local Anaesthetic, Undertaking Orthodontic Procedures, Intra-oral Radiography and Extra-oral Radiography; or
6. Diploma in Dental Hygiene, University of Otago (Orthodontic Procedures conferred from 2002) and Dental Council approved courses for Administering Local Anaesthetic and Extra-oral Radiography, or
7. Bachelor of Health Science (Endorsement in Dental Hygiene), University of Otago; or
8. ~~An Australian Dental Council accredited programme<sup>9</sup> an undergraduate dental hygiene degree or diploma from the Australian Dental Council or Dental Board of Australia accredited educational institution~~ that included education in Administering Local Anaesthetic, Undertaking Orthodontic Procedures, Intra-oral Radiography and Extra-oral Radiography and registration in Australia<sup>10</sup>; or
9. ~~A Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of registration in dental hygiene in Australia<sup>11</sup>~~ that included education in Administering Local Anaesthetic, Undertaking Orthodontic Procedures, Intra-oral Radiography and Extra-oral Radiography and registration in Australia; or
10. an undergraduate dental hygiene degree or diploma, or undergraduate dental degree; and a pass in the Dental Council Dental Hygiene Registration Examination; or
11. an undergraduate dental hygiene degree or diploma or undergraduate dental degree and a pass in the USA National Board Dental Hygiene Examination or Canadian National Dental Hygiene Certification Examination and a pass in a USA or Canadian regional or state board dental hygiene clinical examination; and registration with a USA or Canadian dental authority; and Dental Council approved courses for Administering Local Anaesthetic, Undertaking Orthodontic Procedures, Intra-oral Radiography and Extra-oral Radiography; or
12. a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CDA) accredited undergraduate dental hygiene degree or diploma; a pass in the USA National Board Dental Hygiene Examination or Canadian National

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<sup>9</sup> Before 30 June 2010, and 17 October 2010 for Western Australia

<sup>10</sup> ~~With the introduction of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme in 2010 all Australian State Licensing Boards were replaced by the Dental Board of Australia.~~

<sup>11</sup> From 1 July 2010 onwards; and 18 October 2010 onwards for Western Australia

Dental Hygiene Certification Examination; and registration with a USA or Canadian dental authority; and Dental Council approved courses for Administering Local Anaesthetic, Undertaking Orthodontic Procedures, Intra-oral Radiography and Extra-oral Radiography; or

13. a General Dental Council (GDC) accredited undergraduate dental hygiene degree or diploma from the United Kingdom; and registration with the GDC; and Dental Council approved courses for Administering Local Anaesthetic, Undertaking Orthodontic Procedures, Intra-oral Radiography and Extra-oral Radiography; or
14. a Certificate or Diploma in Dental Hygiene conferred by the GDC; and registration with the GDC; and Dental Council approved courses for Administering Local Anaesthetic, Undertaking Orthodontic Procedures, Intra-oral Radiography and Extra-oral Radiography.