

DENTAL COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND

Te Kaunihera Tiaki Nibo o Aotearoa

· DENTISTRY · DENTAL HYGIENE · CLINICAL DENTAL TECHNOLOGY · DENTAL TECHNOLOGY · DENTAL THERAPY ·

Dental Council of New Zealand (DCNZ) Meeting Summary of Decisions – 7 September 2009

Review of Quarterly Management of Accounts and Variance Reports

The Council approved the management accounts and projected financial accounts for June 2009 YTD.

Doctors (Dentists) Health Advisory Service (DHAS)

The Council resolved to end any formal agreement between DCNZ and DHAS. All reference to DHAS was to be removed from the DCNZ documentation by April 2010.

Audit and Risk Management Committee's Terms of Reference

The Council approved the Terms of Reference for the new Audit and Risk Management Committee (which would be replacing the Council's Business Assurance Committee). Expressions of interest for the new Committee are to be sought from Council and Professional Board members for presentation to the Council December 2009 meeting.

Closing Reserves at 31 March 2009

The Council resolved that Annual Practising Certificate (APC) funding of discipline expenditure (after recoveries) from APC fees should be based on the budgeted net discipline expenditure

Risk Analysis Report for the Period Ended 30 June 2009

Council approved the new reporting structure for the Risk Analysis Report which will only see risk identified as requiring major improvement to be reported to Council.

Dental Technician Board Appointments

Council agreed:

- for Byron Lord's term with the Dental Technician Board be extended for a period of 12 months;
- due to the decreasing volume of work required of the Dental Technician Board there was a need to reduce costs;
- the composition/structure of the Board needed to be reviewed, with the New Zealand Institute of Dental Technologists (NZIDT) been consulted on options available;
- for the remainder of the current financial year the Dental Technician Board would conduct its business via teleconference, unless business required a physical meeting.

ADC / DCNZ Accreditation Committee Appointment

The Council called for expressions of interest or nominations from Council and professional Board members to be a member of the Australian Dental Council (ADC)/Dental Council of New Zealand Accreditation Committee.

Requests for Cancellation of Registration

The Registrar was directed to cancel entries in the register of those practitioners who had requested cancellation of their registration pursuant to section 142 of the HPCA Act 2003.

Recognising Specialist Prescribed Qualifications

The Secretariat was directed to commence work on preparing consultation documents detailing potential jurisdictions that had equivalent accreditation schemes that could allow extension of the specialist prescribed qualifications.

Improvements in the Registration Process

The Council agreed to the following improvements in the registration process:

- Cease the New Zealand Conditions of Practice (NZCOP) examination and replace it with a requirement for a candidate to self-study the NZCOP Handbook and declare that he or she has read and understood the NZCOP Handbook. The NZCOP Handbook will be maintained on the website as an electronic resource, and;
- Consult with stakeholders on the removal of the NZCOP examination as a prescribed qualification against all dental scopes of practice.
- Cease the requirement for applicants to provide a Police Certificate but continue to require that they declare in their application for registration whether or not they have been convicted of an offence. Where an applicant declares a conviction, Council will still have the right to require a Police Certificate or such other information as it may reasonably require.
- Cease the requirement for an applicant for registration to attend a registration interview.
- Request the Secretariat to research what other RA's require with respect to applicants providing a Certificate of Good Standing (COGS). This item will be brought back to the Council December 2009 meeting. A notice will be put on the website notifying practitioners that COGS was under review.
- Cease the requirement for an applicant to provide their immigration status and to be able to satisfy Council of their intention to reside and practise in New Zealand.
- It was further noted these changes had taken 8 to 10 weeks off the registration process for an overseas applicant and the Secretariat will write to the Ministry of Health advising the recent changes to policy and procedures.
- The Secretariat was to implement the above changes in policy and update any operational processes as soon as practicable.

Policy on Entry Requirements to the NZ Dental Registration Examinations

Council resolved that the policy on entry requirements to the New Zealand Dental Registration Examinations be amended to require candidates to:

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1. Provide satisfactory evidence of the completion of an appropriate dental qualification at a recognised tertiary academic institution;
2. Be registered and provide a certified copy of the registration certification, including Certificates of Good Standing from relevant Boards/Council where registration is or has been held;
3. Where the profession in which the candidate was engaged was not a registered profession in the jurisdiction in which the candidate qualified and /or subsequently worked, then a Statutory Declaration of professional good standing would be required from the candidate; and,
3. Appear to satisfy the fitness for registration requirements of section 16 of the Health Practitioners Competency Assurance Act 2003.

Council also directed the changes to policy be implemented by the Secretariat as soon as practicable.

Policy on Attempts at Passing the NZ Dentist Registration Examination

The Council resolved:

- that the current policy of a limitless number of occasions on which failed candidates could re-sit the written component of the registration examinations would cease;
- currently candidates were permitted up-to-four attempts for passing the clinical component of the registration examinations, this would now cease;
- no candidate for the registration examinations (inclusive of both the written and the clinical components) would be permitted more than three failed attempts in total to obtain a pass in the registration examinations;
- no partial passes were permitted; and;
- the change in policy would affect new candidates only, the policy could not be applied retrospectively.

Code of Practice on the Working Relationship between Orthodontic Auxiliaries and Orthodontists

The Code of Practice on the Working Relationship between Orthodontic Auxiliaries and Orthodontists was finalised and approved for stakeholder consultation.

Process for Considering Annual Reports

Council expressed its support for the Postgraduate and Undergraduate Annual report templates and also the proposed process for considering Annual Reports: This was as follows:

1. Annual Reports were reviewed by the Australian Dental Council (ADC)/DCNZ Secretariat against documentation held in the ADC/DCNZ Secretariat (including previous accreditation reports, previous Annual Reports, etc). To ensure that the reports adequately cover all recommendations and current issues that may have been brought to Council attention the *DCNZ Secretariat review is in turn reviewed by the DCNZ Accreditation Team.*
2. Annual Reports were then reviewed by the Chair of the previous Accreditation Review Team and the Coordinator of Oral Health/Undergraduate Dental/Postgraduate Dental

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Programs from the Accreditation Committee, or nominated Working Parties for each of the dentistry undergraduate, oral health and postgraduate areas.

3. Clarification or additional information is sought from the School/Faculty, as required.
4. The Annual Report and any additional information were reviewed by the next available meeting of the ADC/DCNZ Accreditation Committee (generally the February meeting) and a recommendation was made.
5. *The DCNZ or ADC considers the recommendation of the Accreditation Committee relevant to their jurisdiction and either accepts or rejects the recommendation.*
6. The ADC or DCNZ communicates with the School advising the acceptance (or otherwise) of the Annual Report.

Council further agreed:

- the deadline for Annual Reports from programmes with full accreditation should be moved to mid December, to align with ADC and additionally allow details of the full year's programme to be included in the report;
- the deadline for Annual Reports from programmes with new programme accreditation or provisional accreditation would be 1 September, and;
- the Secretariat to advise the Schools of the changes to the due dates of the Annual Reports.

Report on Bachelor of Dental Technology and Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Dental Programmes

The Council agreed the University of Otago had addressed the accreditation recommendations and the Secretariat was requested to convey this feedback to the university.

Report on NZAO Orthodontic Auxiliary Training Programme

The Council agreed to the recommendations outlined in the Accreditation Report. The New Zealand Association of Orthodontists (NZAO) Orthodontic Auxiliary Training programme would be accorded "New Programme with Conditions" accreditation for 1 year from the commencement of the first programme subject to consultation feedback.

Academic Prize – Bachelor of Oral Health

The Council approved:

- an annual academic prize for the University of Otago and the Auckland University of Technology (AUT) programmes to be awarded in applied Oral Health research;
- the presentation of this award commencing in 2010. This was subject to the acceptance of the institutions.