

DENTAL COUNCIL

Te Kaunibera Tiaki Nibo

DENTISTRY - DENTAL HYGIENE - CLINICAL DENTAL TECHNOLOGY - DENTAL TECHNOLOGY - DENTAL THERAPY

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting – 8 October 2012

The Dental Council is the statutory body constituted under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (The Act) to maintain the health and safety of members of the public by providing mechanisms to ensure that health practitioners are competent and fit to practise. Council endeavours to keep its key stakeholders up to date with key decisions. This document is a summary of Council's decisions from the meeting held in 8 October 2012.

Australian Dental Council MoU

The Council discussed the updated version of the MoU received from the ADC. The composition of the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation committee and the future of the examination process were identified as two main areas for further development in the MOU. The MoU with the ADC will be further discussed by Council at its strategic meeting in December 2012.

NZDREX written examination changes

The Council has been advised by the ADC that the transition to the new Qualifying Examination pathway by ADC will impact on the availability of the written examination during 2013 and that the next examination will be held in 2014. Council will discuss further at the November 2012 meeting the future of the Dental Council's written examination component in light of the changes to the Australian Qualifying Examination.

Review of the HPCA Act

The Council resolved to form a sub-committee of Council to advise and guide the formulation of an appropriate response document to Health Workforce New Zealand's discussion document on the 2012 review of the HPCA Act.

Council Appointments

Dr Michael Bain, Ms Wendy Tozer and Ms Minnie McGibbon were reappointed to the Dental Council for another term. Mr Bede Carran has resigned from the Dental Council as a lay member and Dr David Stephens has been newly appointed as a lay member on the Dental Council.

Dentist/Dental Specialist Recertification Working Group

The Council discussed the report of the dentist/dental specialist working group. Proposals on the next steps required to progress the review process will be discussed at the November meeting where a sub-committee of Council members will be formed to have further discussions with the working group. An article will also be placed in the October newsletter to indicate to practitioners that there will be no immediate change to the recertification requirements for the upcoming dentists CPD cycle but further review of the policy is continuing with potential changes to be implemented later during the cycle. Practitioners will be kept up to date through the consultation process and Council communications.

University of Otago programmes – prescribed qualifications

The Council approved a consultation document to be issued to stakeholders with a proposal to gazette the University of Otago BDS(honours) and the BDentTech(Hons) programmes as prescribed qualifications for the general dental and dental technology scopes of practice respectively.

Oral Health Therapist Consultation

The Council resolved to establish an oral health therapist working group to develop a possible oral health therapist scope of practice in accordance with its 2012-2017 strategic plan. The working group will consist of two Council members, two educationalists, a dentist and two dual trained dental hygienist/dental therapists. Expressions of interest will be issued to all registered practitioners in the professions represented in the working group, professional associations and educational institutions.

Draft Code of Practice on Advertising

The Council resolved to reconvene the advertising working group to consider the individual submissions received on its second consultation on the draft Code of Practice on Advertising. The working group will make recommendations to Council on any proposed changes to the content of the draft code of practice.

Medical Emergencies Code of Practice Review

The first scheduled meeting of the Medical Emergencies Code of Practice working group is scheduled for 31 October 2012. The final membership of the working group is:

- Robin Whyman, *Council member, dental specialist* (Chair)
- Darryl Tong, *dentist/dental specialist*
- Rachel Bridgeman, *dental therapist*
- Michelle Enslin, *dental hygienist*
- Steve Russell, *dental technician & clinical dental technician*
- Kevin Nation, *New Zealand Resuscitation Council representative.*

Council's Tooth Whitening Statement

A revised draft statement on tooth whitening will be issued to the Ministry of Health to clarify the definition on the supervision that a dentist needs to provide a non-registered tooth-whitening practitioner as specified in the ERMA decision.

ADC/DC/(NZ) Accreditation Guidelines and Explanatory notes

The Council resolved to adopt the received ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Guidelines and Explanatory Notes.

ADC/DC/(NZ) FRACDS(OMS) Comprehensive report review process

The Council approved the amended proposed comprehensive report review process and appointed Professor Lindsay Richards to assist John Bridgman with the New Zealand review of the comprehensive report.

University of Melbourne Local Anaesthesia Course Application

The Council will approach a dental educationalist from AUT to review the University of Melbourne's Local Analgesia course to make recommendations to Council on whether the course is sufficient to equip existing registrants for removal of exclusions from their registered scope of practice.

Members Fees and Expenditure

The Council approved the amended Members Fees and Expenditure Policy.