

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 April 2013

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 April 2013.

IT Systems upgrade

The Council approved the upgrade of the registration database to MS Access 2013 and not further investigate SQL at this time.

ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee Appointment

The Council appointed Michael Bain to the ADC/DC(NZ) accreditation committee for a further three year term.

Clinical Teaching Staff and Postgraduate Students Registration

The Council elevated the priority for consideration of an academic scope of practice. The Council will further investigate and prepare draft scopes of practice for dental academics and postgraduate students taking into account the following principles: Council's primary consideration is to protect the safety of the public and to ensure that applicants are fit for registration (s16 of the Act); applicants have the necessary qualifications (s12) and is competent to practice the scope of practice; a new scope of practice should not lower registration standards; and implications for the TTMR Act. Council determined that other special areas of practice – such as visiting presenters, emergencies, administrators/managers not practising clinically on a full-time basis, will be further considered after the investigation of the academic and postgraduate students scopes of practice.

Draft Standards Framework

The Council agreed to amend its proposed Standards Framework from four ethical principles to add a fifth principle 'Communicate Effectively'. The Council approved in principle the proposed Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics. The proposed Standards Framework to be tabled for discussion at the Standards Review Committee meeting scheduled for 18 June 2013. Subsequent to feedback from the committee, the Standards Framework will be discussed with Council's key stakeholders and professional associations prior to general consultation.

Oral Health Therapist Working Group Appointments

The Council appointed the following members to the Oral Health Therapist working group:

- Lyndie Foster Page – Council member and Chair of Committee
- Minnie McGibbone – Council member and dental therapist
- Leslea Eilenberg – Council member and dental hygienist
- Susan Moffat – Educationalist, University of Otago
- Daniel Fernandez – Educationalist, AUT
- John Boyens – Dentist
- Marize Jones – Dual trained practitioner

- Grace Park – Dual trained practitioner
- Barbara Dewson – Dental therapist
- Rose Davies – Dental hygienists

Medical Emergencies Code of Practice

Council considered the various recommendations made by the medical emergencies code of practice working group and requested a draft a consultation document to be developed for discussion at the May 2013 meeting. Council will also investigate the whether there is equivalence between the Australian Resuscitation courses and New Zealand courses as well as how other international courses completed will be assessed.

Code of Practice on Advertising

Council agreed the implementation date for the code of practice on Advertising will be 1 November 2013. Council agreed to issue an outcome letter advising that a notice period of six months be granted to allow practitioners time to ensure compliance with the new code of practice on Advertising. Council also agreed to discuss the new code with key professional associations in upcoming meetings and to include an article in Council's next newsletter.

University of Otago – BDS Annual Report

The 2012 annual report for the University of Otago BDS programme was accepted by Council as satisfactory in continuing to meet the accreditation standards for Dentist Programmes.

Standing Orders for the Application of Fluoride Varnish

The Council agreed that the restriction on the application of fluoride varnish did not relate to the activity but in the classification of the medicine. Therefore, a dentist could issue a standing order for a non-registered person (such as a dental assistant) to apply fluoride varnish provided it is compliant with the requirements stipulated in sections 9 and 10 of the Ministry of Health Guidelines on Standing Orders.

FFOP site visit

The Council approved the following assessors for the Fellowship of the Faculty of Pathology Programme site visit scheduled for 29 July-1 August 2013:

- Prof Newell Johnson (Chair) – Professor of Dental Research, Griffith University
- Prof David Wilson – Head of School, Professor in Dentistry and Health Science (Oral & Maxillofacial pathology), Charles Stuart University
- Dr Alec High – University of Leeds