

DENTAL COUNCIL

Te Kaunibera Tiaki Nibo

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

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting – 2 September 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 September 2013.

Health and Safety Guidelines for Directors

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) together with the Institute of Directors released the *Good Governance Guidelines for Managing Health and Safety Risks* in response to the recommendations from the Pike River Royal Commission. As a result, Council resolved to raise health and safety for risk monitoring at the next Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting.

Continuing professional development activities policy: end of oral health practitioners CPD cycle – December 2013

The Council agreed that pending a review of Council's recertification requirements by a Working Group established for the purpose, it will waive the requirement for individual CPD activity verification for the dental hygienists, dental therapists, orthodontic auxiliaries, dental technicians and clinical dental technicians CPD cycle, ending 31 December 2013.

The Council would also:

- notify the relevant practitioners and stakeholders;
- request a self-declaration from each practitioner that he or she has completed the minimum prescribed number of CPD hours and peer contact activities for his or her profession;
- not require a detailed CPD activities schedule or log to be submitted to Council at the end of the cycle by a practitioner, but that it recommend that practitioners maintain one for their records and in preparation for a possible audit following the end of the CPD cycle; and
- perform random CPD audits (sample of 10 percent of practitioners) after the conclusion of the CPD cycle, and require those practitioners selected for audit to submit their schedules together with evidence of activity completion or course attendance.

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Forensic Odontology

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA) Forensic Odontology approached Council to have the Fellowship in Forensic Odontology qualification in New Zealand recognised as a prescribed qualification in New Zealand.

The RCPA were advised that practitioners could currently obtain, use and advertise the Fellowship in Forensic Odontology qualification in New Zealand, but not for registration purposes as there was no scope of practice for Forensic Odontology in New Zealand. A new scope of practice would usually be supported by the profession rather than imposed by the regulatory body.

Standards Framework – Standards Committee Recommendations

Council considered and agreed to the recommendations of the Standards Committee regarding the Standards Framework. A consultation document for the proposed standards framework, with the relevant background information would be released for practitioners' consideration.

Council also agreed with the committee's risk analysis and risk ratings allocated to the existing codes of practice and statements. However this must be reviewed at each committee meeting from both regulatory and patient safety perspectives.

Based on its risk assessment, the Council agreed to the committee's recommendation, that the review of the following codes of practice be accepted as the committee's 2013/14 priority work plan: ethical conduct, transmissible major viral infections (TMVI) and cross infection.

Draft Medical Emergencies Code of Practice – Consultation outcome

Council noted that 46 submissions had been received, with the majority of submissions supporting the draft code of practice in principle. As a result, Council agreed to establish an expert team to consider the detailed comments submitted relating to sedation, the equipment, and emergency drugs requirements and for the team to submit a report with recommendations to Council. The expert team was to comprise:

- the Chair of the medical emergencies working group;
- DHB resuscitation provider representatives;
- a general dentist performing sedation and a member of the New Zealand Sedation Society, in consultation with the NZDA; and
- an oral and maxillofacial surgery specialist, in consultation with ANZAOMS – New Zealand Committee

The Council will defer its decision until after consideration of the expert team's report. Therefore, the current medical emergencies codes of practice is to remain in place.

FRACDS (OMS) Accreditation Period

Council resolved to extend the accreditation period for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Education and Training Program of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons until 31 December 2013, to allow for the limited accreditation review process to be concluded.