

DENTAL COUNCIL

Te Kaunibera Tiaki Nibo

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

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting – 5 May 2014

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 May 2014.

Specialist Competencies – Expert Reference Group Specialist

Council approved the following draft competencies by specialty for release for targeted information gather with stakeholders:

- Endodontics
- Oral Medicine
- Oral Surgery
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Oral Pathology
- Orthodontics
- Paediatric Dentistry
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics

A number of competencies are still to be developed for the New Zealand Specialties of public health dentistry, special needs dentistry and restorative dentistry, if required, as no educational programme is currently offered.

Cross Infection Review and Gap Analysis

Council considered the Standards Review Standing Committee's recommendations, gap analysis and draft terms of reference for a Cross Infection Working Group.

Council resolved to:

- defer the start of its cross infection codes of practice review until after the finalisation of the NZ Dental Association (NZDA) cross infection code of practice review in August 2014, and to then utilise the revised NZDA code and other relevant source material to inform the working group's deliberations of those areas identified in the gap analysis.
- approve the Gap analysis: Code of Practice – Control of Cross Infection in Dental Practice;
- approve the following areas identified by the work stream as requiring revision, and further consideration and investigation by the Cross Infection Working Group:
 - The responsibility for implementation of the code, including development and maintenance of related policies and procedures and their documentation; and maintenance of records.
 - Who the code applies to
 - Appropriate training of staff
 - Personal hygiene and personal protective equipment
 - Needle-stick injury be extended to sharps injury
 - Selection of chemical disinfectant agents
 - Instrument re-processing and sterilisation;

- approve the draft terms of reference for the Cross Infection Working Group, for use as part of the expression of interest for appointment to the working group, with the provision that this be reviewed and updated, if required, once the NZDA revised code has been received

Standards Framework and Draft Consultation Document

Council considered and approved the following documents as recommended by the Standards Review Standing Committee:

- Proposed changes to the draft ethical principles and professional standards
- The draft guidance developed for the professional standards
- The design template for the Standards Framework
- The draft consultation document.

To promote the standards framework, Council also approved to have consultation groups in different locations around New Zealand. Venues and dates are yet to be confirmed.

Standards Review Committee – updated work plan 2014/15

Council approved the Standards Review Committee prioritised work plan for 2014/2015, with the code of practice reviews in the following order:

- Sexual boundaries
- Sedation – to follow after finalisation of the medical emergencies code of practice
- Cross infection
- Record keeping

University of Otago BOH – Site Evaluation Team

Council approved the appointment of Charlotte Neame as the dental hygiene member to the University of Otago site evaluation team.