

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting – 6 July 2015

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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 meetings held in July 2015.

Draft Specialist Competencies

Following The Expert Reference Group – Specialists (ERGS) targeted consultation to align with the Dental Board of Australia's process, to inform further development, Council approved the draft entry level competencies to be issued for preliminary targeted consultation to key stakeholders, subject to final wording changes for:

- Dento-maxillofacial radiology (not applicable in New Zealand)
- Endodontics
- Forensic odontology (not applicable in New Zealand)
- Oral & maxillofacial surgery
- Oral medicine
- Oral pathology
- Oral surgery
- Orthodontics
- Paediatric dentistry
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics
- Public health dentistry (Community dentistry)
- Special Needs Dentistry.

TMVI Code of practice

Council considered the advice offered by representatives from the Health and Disability Commissioner and Privacy Commissioner during a meeting on 2 July 2015, on the Council's proposed notification obligations to patients by a TMVI infected practitioner.

Following extensive discussions the Council agreed that a TMVI infected practitioner must immediately disclose his/her infected status to a patient if the practitioner injured himself/herself exposing the patient to his/her blood, most likely while performing an exposure-prone procedure; followed by a TMVI panel member contacting the patient involved, to explain the risks associated with the incident and offer the appropriate medical advice to the patient.

Based on consideration of all the information considered, Council further agreed to not set a mandatory notification requirement for infected practitioners to disclose their infected status to immunocompromised patients, or all of his/her patients when performing an exposure-prone procedure.

Council approved the updated draft TMVI practice standard, subject to alignment of the notification section based on the Council's decision.

The updated TMVI panel terms of reference was also approved, subject to practitioner minor change.

The Council decided that implementation date of the TMVI practice standard will be 15 August 2015 to allow for communication to the Council's stakeholders, appointment of the TMVI panel, and finalisation of the operational processes to activate the new practice standard.

Standards Framework follow-up consultation submissions

Council considered the submissions received during the follow-up consultation. Only one minor amendment to professional standard 24 was accepted. The updated draft *Standards framework for oral health practitioners*, was approved for issuing to stakeholders and implementation.

The implementation date for the Standards framework for oral health practitioners will be 15 August 2015 to allow for communication to the Council stakeholders, rebranding of the Council's codes of practice to practice standards, and other operational actions required to enact the standards framework.

University of Otago Bachelor of Dental Technology and Bachelor of Dental Technology (honours) 2014 annual report

The 2014 annual report for the University of Otago Bachelor of Dental Technology & Honours programme was accepted by Council as satisfactory in continuing to meet the accreditation standards.

University of Otago DClinDent (oral surgery) site evaluation team membership change

John Robertson was appointed as the new laymember for the University of Otago DClinDent (oral surgery) site evaluation team, due to the unavailability of the previously appointed laymember.

University of Otago Dental Technology accreditation site evaluation team membership

John Kim and Leah Taylor were appointed to the New Zealand registered clinical dental technician and dental technician positions on the Otago Dental technology site evaluation team.

Council delegated authority to the Chair and Deputy Chair of Council to appoint the SET Chair and laymember.

Corporate Policies

Council approved the following updated Finance; Procurement; Delegations; Governance, Communications; and Internal Controls policies:

- Level of reserves
- Budgeting, fee setting and cost allocation
- Investment of funds
- Expenditure decisions and probity
- Internal fraud
- Disclosure of financial information (materiality)
- Credit and debt management
- Risk management
- Refund of New Zealand Dental Registration Examination Fees
- Fees and Payments
- Expenses and Reimbursements
- Procurement

- Guidelines on consultation
- Management of conflicts of interest

The following policies were rescinded:

- The policy *Method of cost allocation* (merged into new policy Budgeting fee setting and cost allocation).
- The rescinding of the following policies, once the relevant provisions (delegations etc.) have been incorporated into the Governance Handbook.
 - Financial delegations to the CEO from the Dental Council
 - HR delegations to the CEO from the Dental Council
 - Legislative delegations to the Registrar under the HPCA Act 2003
 - Legislative delegations to the Deputy Registrar
 - Delegation to the CPD Advisory Committee
 - Governance policy on how the Dental Council will operate
 - Code of conduct
 - Protocol for the election of the chair person and deputy chair of the Dental Council
 - Dental Council General Governance
 - Members fees and expenditure
 - Management of conflicts of interest
- The policy on *Legislative Compliance* as this would be included in a working guideline for staff.
- The following policies as they have been merged and then split into two new policies *Fees and Payments and Expenses and Reimbursement*.
 - HPDT fees and expenditure
 - CRC fees and expenditure
 - Examiners fees and expenditure
 - PCC fees and expenditure
 - Qualifications Assessor fees and expenditure
 - Supervisor and mentor fees and expenditure
 - Competence review or programme fees and expenditure
 - Practice audit and review fees and expenditure
 - Working group member fees and expenditure