

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting – 29 September 2017

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The Dental Council (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 on 29 September 2017.

2018 Council meeting dates

The 2018 Council and Audit and Risk Committee meeting dates were approved. The dates will be published on the website.

Australian Accreditation Systems Review – submission

The Accreditation Systems Review Draft Report was released on 4 September 2017, and interested parties were invited to provide written submissions on the options and recommendations of the Draft Report by 16 October 2017.

Council approved the draft submission on the Independent Review of Accreditation Systems within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for health professions – Draft Report.

Informed consent practice standard

Council considered a review of the Informed Consent practice standard (2005) and noted a summary of the key changes in the proposed standards, including:

- More information was provided in the introduction to enhance practitioners' understanding of the informed consent process; the importance of working in partnership with their patients to achieve effective communication; and 'competence'.
- Greater guidance in relation to effective communication, the assessment of 'competence', and the practitioner's responsibilities when the patient is not competent or has diminished competence.

Overall, Council approved the draft practice standard and consultation document, subject to some further amendments. The proposed practice standard will be consulted upon from 10 November 2017 – 5 February 2018.

Proposed 2018/19 budget, APC fees and disciplinary levies, and other fees

Council approved the proposed 2018/19 budget, APC and other fees, and disciplinary levies would be consulted upon with stakeholders from 5 October to 1 December 2017.

The updated Budgeting, Fee Setting and Cost allocation Policy was also approved.

Review of finance policies

The updated fees and payments policy was approved.