

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting – 4 December 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 meeting held on 4 December 2017.

MOU with the Ministry of Health

The Council considered a revised draft of the MOU with the Ministry of Health (MOH) and accepted the majority of the proposed changes. The draft MOU is now with the MOH for consideration.

Allergic reactions to dental products

The Ministry of Health provided the Council with the following statement:

“The Ministry of Health has been advised of two cases of allergic reactions after the application of a Casein Phospho Peptide (CPP)-containing fluoride paste by oral health practitioners. One of the reactions was severe. Both patients were known to have an allergy to milk products but in neither case was the patient/parent consulted about the application of the paste, which is not recommended for use in those with a milk allergy.

Oral health practitioners should be familiar with what products they are using and of any precautions advised by the manufacturers. Practitioners have a responsibility to check the patient's medical history prior to commencing treatment and to confirm that any products or equipment used will not cause life threatening reactions.

Also of note is that the only fluoride varnish product currently approved in New Zealand for the prevention of dental caries is Colgate's Duraphat Dental Varnish 5% w/v in the 10 mL and 30 mL multidose tubes. Please refer to the [Medsafe website](#) to identify those medicines approved for use in New Zealand.”

Recertification policy review – phase one consultation responses

The Council accepted the draft summary report from phase one of the consultation, subject to further amendments, and agreed that the summary report will be issued to all practitioners and stakeholders on 31 January 2018.

Orthodontic treatment patient information

The Council deferred making a decision until it receives feedback from the New Zealand Dental Association, New Zealand Association of Orthodontists and New Zealand Dentists Orthodontic Society.

The final draft resources would be presented at the February 2018 Council meeting.

[Draft Patient records and privacy of health information – consultation feedback](#)

The Council approved the draft Patient records and privacy of health information practice standard, subject to further refinements related to the guidance provided in the draft practice standard.

The practice standard will come into effect on 1 February 2018.

[University of Otago – building report \(1 July – 30 September 2017\)](#)

Council accepted the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee's recommendation from its 10 November 2017 meeting that there are no current issues that put the accredited Otago educational programmes at risk of not continuing to meet the accreditation standards.

[Finance policies](#)

The following policies were approved:

- Credit and debt management
- Internal fraud
- Investment of funds
- Refund of examination fees
- Procurement policy

[Accreditation Report](#)

Council approved the following updated ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee documents:

- Guidelines for accreditation of education and training programs for dental practitioners
- Accreditation Manual for Assessors
- Policy on assessor criteria and appointment of SET
- Assessor criteria and application process.