

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting 7 February 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 in February 2017.

Election of the Chair and Deputy Chair

Under clause 3, schedule 3 of the Act, the Council must, at its first meeting of the year, elect from its membership a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

- Dr Robin Whyman was re-elected as Chair of the Dental Council.
- Brig Andrew Gray was re-elected as Deputy Chair of the Dental Council.

Review of registration of additional qualifications and titles policy

The Dental Council has a statutory function to maintain a register of its registered practitioners. The register provides confirmation to the public that a dental professional is registered with the Council and entitled to practise in New Zealand. It is a means of protecting the health and safety of members of the public.

Council considered whether its practice of including additional qualification information in the public register, on the request of a practitioner, was in the public's interest, and aligned with section 138 of the Act.

Council agreed in principle to:

- Rescind the policy *Registration of Additional Qualifications and Titles*, dated July 2005; and
- Withdraw the Dental Council Guideline: Use of Qualifications and Titles

An operational plan - for the removal from the register of all current entries of additional qualification information; and communications plan to inform the public/practitioners, will be developed for further consideration of the Council.

Recertification policy review and symposium

Council approved the draft discussion document to be issued to stakeholders attending the symposium held on 17 March 2017 at Te Papa, Wellington. The final symposium programme and invitation list was also approved.

Use of adrenalin by oral health therapists

The Council agreed to require oral health therapists to hold and administer adrenaline for the management of an anaphylaxis event, under the Council's Medical Emergencies in Dental Practice - Practice Standard.

Medical Emergencies practice standard – drug requirements

As a result of the Council's reclassification application to the Medicines Classification Committee, to require dental therapists to hold and use adrenaline for the management of an anaphylaxis event, the Council's Medical Emergencies in Dental Practice - Practice Standard will be updated accordingly.