

22 July 2024

Kia ora koutou,

## Consultation on end-dating prescribed qualifications to reflect accreditation and prescribed qualification status

### The proposal

The Dental Council is proposing to end-date some gazetted prescribed qualifications after the ending of their accreditation, and a programme change. This administrative change would provide clarity on the status of these programmes for recognition as New Zealand accredited prescribed qualifications.

If accreditation is granted in the future, a new start date will be gazetted to signal the change in status as prescribed qualification.

The following programmes' accreditation ended on 31 December 2023:

- University of Otago Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in oral and maxillofacial surgery
- University of Otago Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in oral medicine
- University of Otago Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in special needs dentistry
- The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology.

In addition, the University of Otago Bachelor of Dental Technology (Honours) will be end-dated for the reasons described in the next section.

Attachment 1 contains the draft gazette notices with the proposed changes to the prescribed qualifications for the respective scopes of practice.

### Background

Under section 12 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the Act), the Dental Council prescribes, by gazette notice, the qualifications recognised for each scope of practice, and any updates or changes must be consulted on.

To accurately reflect their accreditation and status as prescribed qualifications, the Council is consulting on proposed administrative changes to the following prescribed qualifications:

### *Dental specialist programmes*

The accreditation of prescribed qualifications for a number of dental specialist scopes of practice ended on 31 December 2023:

Oral and maxillofacial surgery specialists	University of Otago Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in oral and maxillofacial surgery
Oral medicine specialists	University of Otago Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in oral medicine
Special needs dentistry specialists	University of Otago Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in special needs dentistry
Oral pathology specialists	Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology

All four programmes have withdrawn from New Zealand accreditation – no active students were enrolled in these programmes at the time of their accreditation ending.

Accordingly, the Council is proposing to end-date these prescribed qualifications effective 31 December 2023.

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology programme indicated to the Council that they will maintain their accreditation in Australia.

These changes mean that:

- all graduates before the accreditation end-date will continue to be eligible to apply for registration
- students enrolled in and completing any New Zealand unaccredited programmes would not be eligible to apply for registration in New Zealand (should these programmes choose to enrol students)
- The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology could continue to offer training in Australia if accreditation is maintained there, and those graduates could be eligible for registration in New Zealand.

### *Dental technology honours programme*

In 2023 changes were made to the structure of the University of Otago Bachelor of Dental Technology (Honours) programme. These changes meant that the Bachelor of Dental Technology students would now complete their undergraduate training, graduate, and then continue with their honours programme. On completion of the Bachelor of Dental Technology programme the students would meet the required competencies for registration in the dental technology scope of practice. Accordingly, the Bachelor of Dental Technology (Honours) is no longer required as a prescribed qualification for registration as a dental technician. The Bachelor of Dental Technology programme's accreditation and recognition as prescribed qualification remain unchanged.

Although the honours programme has accreditation until the end of 2024, there are no students enrolled in the "old" honours programme and it is proposed to be end-dated as a prescribed qualification from 31 December 2023. Earlier graduates would continue to be eligible for registration.

## Have your say

Section 14(2) of the Act requires the Council to consult on a notice of prescribed qualifications for a scope of practice. The proposed changes are reflected in the draft notice in Appendix 1.

Please provide your feedback by responding to the following consultation question:

Do you agree/disagree with the proposed administrative changes to end-date the following prescribed qualifications:

- Oral and maxillofacial surgery specialists: University of Otago Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in oral and maxillofacial surgery
- Oral medicine specialists: University of Otago Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in oral medicine
- Special needs dentistry specialists: University of Otago Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in special needs dentistry
- Oral pathology specialists: Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
- Dental technology: University of Otago Bachelor of Dental Technology (Honours).

The consultation process provides oral health practitioners, professional associations and societies, the Ministry of Health Manatū Hauora, Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora, and educational institutions with an opportunity to make submissions.

We welcome and value all feedback, but multiple, identical submissions do not carry any more weight than a single submission. All feedback we receive will be considered and will inform our final decision.

### Submissions

Your submissions must reach us **by 19 August 2024**.

You can submit your response to [consultations@dcnz.org.nz](mailto:consultations@dcnz.org.nz).

Submissions received will be published on our website and will record the submitter's name and profession (for registered oral health practitioners). All other contact details will be removed. We will not publish any submissions containing derogatory or inflammatory content.

As this is a public consultation process, "in confidence" information will only be accepted under special circumstances. Please contact us before submitting material in confidence.

If you have any questions about this consultation, you can contact us by [email](#) or phone 04 499 4820. I look forward to receiving your views on the proposals.

Ngā mihi



Marie MacKay  
Chief Executive/Registrar

## Proposed DRAFT notice of prescribed qualifications for scope of practice for oral and maxillofacial surgery specialists

### Under the Legislation Act 2019

Under the Legislation Act 2019, notice is given of the making of the following secondary legislation:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Empowering provision(s)</i>	<i>Administering agency</i>	<i>Effective date</i>
Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003	Section 12	Dental Council	Date of gazette notice

This secondary legislation can be accessed [here](#).

The following replaces the scope of practice and prescribed qualifications for oral and maxillofacial surgery published in the New Zealand Gazette, 19 January 2023, 2023-s1176.

This notice is issued by the Dental Council pursuant to section 12 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.

### Prescribed qualifications for the scope of practice for oral and maxillofacial surgery specialists

#### New Zealand

- MDS/MBChB (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery) University of Otago
- DClinDent (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery) University of Otago<sup>1,2</sup>.

#### Australia

- an Australian ADC accredited MDS or MDSc or DClinDent programme in oral and maxillofacial surgery<sup>3</sup>, and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools<sup>4</sup>
- a Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in oral and maxillofacial surgery in Australia<sup>5</sup>, and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools.

#### Australasia

- Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery)<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Entry criteria require completed undergraduate dentistry and medical degrees

<sup>2</sup> Accreditation periods: 1 January 2012 - 31 December 2018, and 7 December 2020 – 31 December 2023. Graduates during the accredited periods are eligible for registration

<sup>3</sup> Before 30 June 2010, and before 17 October 2010 for Western Australia

<sup>4</sup> WHO World Directory of Medical Schools replaced by Avicenna since August 2008, and the Faimer IMED Directory signed an agreement in March 2012 with WFME's Avicenna Directory to collaborate in single directory - World Directory of Medical Schools

<sup>5</sup> From 1 July 2010 onwards, and 18 October 2010 onwards for Western Australia

<sup>6</sup> Conferred from 15 March 2012

#### United Kingdom

- registration in oral and maxillofacial surgery with the General Medical Council, United Kingdom.

#### USA and Canada

- Board certification in oral and maxillofacial surgery in a United States of America or Canadian state and possession of a medical degree from a medical school listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools and dental degree.

#### Other

- two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty, evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialist Examination.

## Proposed DRAFT notice of prescribed qualifications for scope of practice for oral medicine specialists

### Under the Legislation Act 2019

Under the Legislation Act 2019, notice is given of the making of the following secondary legislation:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Empowering provision(s)</i>	<i>Administering agency</i>	<i>Effective date</i>
Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003	Section 12	Dental Council	Date of gazette notice

This secondary legislation can be accessed [here](#).

The following replaces the scope of practice and prescribed qualifications for oral medicine specialists published in the *New Zealand Gazette*, 19 January 2023, 2023-s1177.

This notice is issued by the Dental Council pursuant to section 12 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.

### Prescribed qualifications for the scope of practice for oral medicine specialists

#### New Zealand

- MDS/MBChB (Oral Medicine) University of Otago
- DClinDent (Oral Medicine) University of Otago and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools<sup>1,2</sup>.

#### Australia

- an ADC accredited MDS or MDSc or DClinDent programme in oral medicine and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools<sup>3</sup>
- a Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in oral medicine in Australia and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools<sup>4</sup>.

#### Other

- two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty, evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Oral Medicine Specialist Examination.

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<sup>1</sup> Conferred from 2013. **Accreditation ended 31 December 2023**

<sup>2</sup> WHO World Directory of Medical Schools replaced by Avicenna since August 2008, and the Faimer IMED Directory signed an agreement in March 2012 with WFME's Avicenna Directory to collaborate in single directory - World Directory of Medical Schools

<sup>3</sup> Before 30 June 2010, and before 17 October 2010 for Western Australia

<sup>4</sup> From 1 July 2010 onwards, and 18 October 2010 onwards for Western Australia

## Proposed DRAFT notice of prescribed qualifications for scope of practice for oral pathology specialists

### Under the Legislation Act 2019

Under the Legislation Act 2019, notice is given of the making of the following secondary legislation:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Empowering provision(s)</i>	<i>Administering agency</i>	<i>Effective date</i>
Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003	Section 12	Dental Council	Date of gazette notice

This secondary legislation can be accessed [here](#).

The following replaces the scope of practice and prescribed qualifications for oral pathology specialists published in the *New Zealand Gazette*, 19 January 2023, 2023-sl178.

This notice is issued by the Dental Council pursuant to section 12 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.

### Prescribed qualifications for the scope of practice for oral pathology specialists

#### New Zealand

- MDS (Oral Pathology) University of Otago
- DClinDent (Oral Pathology) University of Otago.

#### Australia

- an ADC accredited MDS or MDSc or DClinDent programme in oral pathology<sup>1</sup>
- a Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in oral pathology in Australia<sup>2</sup>.

#### Australasia

- Fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology from the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia<sup>3</sup>.

#### Other

- two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty, evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Oral Pathology Specialist Examination.

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<sup>1</sup> Before 30 June 2010, and before 17 October 2010 for Western Australia

<sup>2</sup> From 1 July 2010 onwards, and 18 October 2010 onwards for Western Australia

<sup>3</sup> Conferred from 2016. **Accreditation ended 31 December 2023**

## Proposed DRAFT notice of prescribed qualifications for scope of practice for special needs dentistry specialists

### Under the Legislation Act 2019

Under the Legislation Act 2019, notice is given of the making of the following secondary legislation:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Empowering provision(s)</i>	<i>Administering agency</i>	<i>Effective date</i>
Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003	Section 12	Dental Council	Date of gazette notice

This secondary legislation can be accessed [here](#).

The following replaces the scope of practice and prescribed qualifications for special needs dentistry specialists published in the *New Zealand Gazette*, 19 January 2023, 2023-si186.

This notice is issued by the Dental Council pursuant to section 12 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.

### Prescribed qualifications for the scope of practice for special needs dentistry specialists

#### New Zealand

- MDS (Special Needs) University of Otago
- DClinDent (Special Needs) University of Otago<sup>1</sup>.

#### Australia

- an ADC accredited MDS or MDSc programme in Special Needs Dentistry<sup>2</sup>
- a Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification for the purposes of specialist registration in special needs dentistry in Australia<sup>3</sup>.

#### Other

- two years or more of full-time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty, evidence of research activity and a pass in the New Zealand Special Needs Dentistry Specialist Examination.

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<sup>1</sup> Accreditation ended 31 December 2023

<sup>2</sup> Before 30 June 2010, and before 17 October 2010 for Western Australia

<sup>3</sup> From 1 July 2010 onwards, and 18 October 2010 onwards for Western Australia



## Proposed DRAFT notice of prescribed qualifications for scope of practice for dental technology scope of practice

### Under the Legislation Act 2019

Under the Legislation Act 2019, notice is given of the making of the following secondary legislation:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Empowering provision(s)</i>	<i>Administering agency</i>	<i>Effective date</i>
Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003	Section 12	Dental Council	Date of gazette notice

This secondary legislation can be accessed [here](#).

The following replaces the scope of practice and prescribed qualifications for dental technology scope of practice published in the *New Zealand Gazette*, 12 November 2021, 2021-s14806.

This notice is issued by the Dental Council pursuant to section 12 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.

### Prescribed qualifications for the scope of practice for dental technology scope of practice

#### New Zealand

- Bachelor of Dental Technology, University of Otago
- Bachelor of Dental Technology with Honours, University of Otago<sup>1</sup>
- Diploma in Dental Technology, issued by a New Zealand educational institution, and commenced prior to 18 September 2004.

#### Other

- An approved overseas dental technology qualification and a pass in the New Zealand Dental Technicians Registration Examination.

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<sup>1</sup> Accreditation ended 31 December 2023