

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting – 2 April 2012

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 meeting held in April 2012.

Dentist/Dental Specialist Recertification working party

Council was updated on the progress of the working party and considered the report given by the Chair of working party on the party's first meeting on 26 March 2012.

English Language Policy

An analysis of the English language requirements for each of the 16 health regulatory authorities to meet section 16 of the Act was carried out and presented to Council. Council's policy and requirements on the proficiency of the English language was similar and comparable to the other New Zealand Health Regulatory Authorities. No immediate changes to Council's English language policy was required.

Draft Code of Practice on advertising – Legal Feedback

The Dental Council considered the legal input received on the code of practice on advertising. The legal opinion will be considered by the advertising working group for the purpose of finalising the consultation document.

Fellowship in the Faculty of Oral Pathology

Council resolved to explore the option of requesting a nomination from the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada for a practising oral/dental pathologist to sit on the review team. Council will also continue to liaise with the ADC and the College directly to try and move the accreditation process forward.

Follow-up Consultation on Proposed Changes to the Dental Technician and Clinical Dental Technician Scopes of Practice and Code of Practice.

The Dental Council has approved the follow up consultation on proposed changes to the dental technician and clinical dental technician scopes of practice and code of practice. Subsequent to providing the New Zealand Institute of Dental Technologists with a copy of the consultation, the consultation document will be issued to all dental technicians, clinical dental technicians, dentists, relevant associations and societies, the Ministry of Health, District Health boards and other organisations with an interest, in accordance with section 14 of the Act.