

# DENTAL COUNCIL

*Te Kaunibera Tiaki Nibo*

DENTISTRY - DENTAL HYGIENE - CLINICAL DENTAL TECHNOLOGY - DENTAL TECHNOLOGY - DENTAL THERAPY

## Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting – 5 November 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 5 November 2012.

### Dental Technicians – Removal of English Language Conditions

The Council resolved to remove the condition of onsite supervision from the scopes of practice of 13 dental technicians whose applications for registration were considered by the Dental Technicians Board during the 'amnesty period' of 2006 and 2007. The Registrar will notify the 13 technicians affected and issue replacement APCs without conditions and wish them well in the continued practice of their profession in New Zealand.

### Australian Dental Council MoU

Council approved the draft MoU noting the possibility of a change to the exam nomenclature. The Chair has been delegated authority to ratify the final MoU.

### Governance structure – ASB House co-located RAs

Council considered legal advice received on an appropriate legal vehicle for the co-locating regulatory authorities to enter into. The Council resolved that its preference was for a formal governance agreement rather than a corporate entity. The Chief Executive has been delegated the responsibility to work with the other regulatory authorities to put in place an operational governance agreement for co-located RAs in ASB House.

### Council Appointments

Ms Leslea Eilenberg has been reappointed to the Dental Council for another term. Mr John Aarts has been newly appointed as the dental technician member of the Council following the end of Mr Neil Waddell's term.

### Code of Practice Standing Committee Expression of Interest

Council could not finalise the appointments to the committee at this meeting but shortlisted candidates for further consideration at Council's December meeting. Robin Whyman was appointed as the Chair and Council representative on the committee.

### Cone Beam Computed Tomography in Dentistry

The Council resolved that responsibility for reporting should be with the referring practitioner and not the CBCT provider. The CBCT provider could choose to put in place a referral arrangement if they are requested for a report by the referring practitioner and they do not have the required skills in-house.

### **Hygienist self-referral for treatment**

The Council resolved that self-referral by a patient to a dental hygienist is appropriate for achieving greater access to oral health services. The working relationship between dental hygienists and dentists/dental specialists is clear and the current provision for referral and the levels of supervision in the working relationship is appropriate. Individual dentists can determine his or her own arrangements with the dental hygienist that he/she has signed a working relationship with.

### **University of Otago – MDS/MBChB(OMS)**

The Council agreed to extend the accreditation for the Otago MDS/MBChB(OMS) programme until 31 December 2016 to allow currently enrolled students to complete the programme. Council will also ask the University of Otago faculty to comment on the arrangements for the MDS/MBChB(OMS) in its annual report to Council.

### **AUT 2013 Accreditation Review Team**

The Council will approach the New Zealand Dental Hygienist Association and New Zealand Dental & Oral health Therapist Association for nominations for the hygienist and therapist positions on the AUT 2013 accreditation review team. The final composition of the team will be considered after further investigations and nominations have been received. AUT will also be approached for feedback on potential conflict pertaining to the team membership.

### **ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee – Certification of Courses to Extend Practice - discussion document and draft statements**

Council agreed to issue the discussion document regarding the certification of courses to extend practice to stakeholders under the ambit of the joint accreditation committee. However that there is no firm commitment from Council to take up the joint process until after consideration of the consultation outcome. The Council will also request preliminary anticipated costings for an approval process for these courses from the ADC.

### **ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee – Observer policy**

The Council approved in principle the draft ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee – Observer Policy and Agreement.

### **DBA Consultation on the Accreditation review**

The Council will draft a submission in support of an extension to the existing accreditation arrangements for oral health practitioner through the Australian Dental Council as the Dental Board of Australia's approved Accreditation Council.

### **University of Melbourne Local Anaesthesia Course Application**

The review of the University of Melbourne Local Analgesia course will be performed by Daniel Fernandez, a registered dental therapist teaching the local anaesthesia module at AUT.

### **Budget 2013/14 and Fee and Levy Setting**

The Council approved after consideration, the 2013/14 and 2014/15 budgets including the capital budget, non-dentist APC fees, levies and revised retention, examination and registration fees to go to consultation with stakeholders.

### **Dental Technicians Disciplinary Levy**

Council approved a Technician Disciplinary Levy of \$268.78 plus GST to be gazetted. The disciplinary levy will recover discipline costs incurred from practitioners on the register in November 2012.