

# Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meetings in December 2019

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 meetings held in December 2019.

## Council appointments

In November 2019, the Minister of Health, Hon Dr David Clark re-appointed John Aarts, clinical dental technician & dental technician and Gillian Tahī, dental therapist for another term of three years.

The Minister of Health also appointed the following members for a three-year term:

- Dr Andrew Cautley – dentist and prosthodontic specialist
- Nur Al Niaami – oral health therapist
- Robyn Corrigan – lay member
- Camilla Belich - lay member

## University of Otago – accreditation review

The Council considered the site evaluation team's accreditation report and the Australian Dental Council/ Dental Council (NZ) Accreditation Committee's recommendations.

### University of Otago undergraduate programmes

Overall, the review team found the undergraduate programmes have continued to provide appropriate education and training for students to attain the necessary competencies and substantially meet the benchmark accreditation standards.

Areas where the programmes need to strengthen student clinical experience and manage transition arrangements for the new clinics (Dunedin and Auckland) have been identified. Accreditation has been granted subject to the programmes meeting a number of conditions, particularly for the BDS programme, within defined time frames.

The following programmes were granted accreditation subject to conditions until 31 December 2024:

- Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) and Bachelor of Dental Surgery with Honours (BDS(Hons))
- Bachelor of Oral Health (BOH)
- Bachelor of Dental Technology and Bachelor of Dental Technology with Honours.

### University of Otago postgraduate programmes

The DClinDent (oral medicine) programme was accredited with a shorter accreditation period until end of 2019 subject to certain conditions. The programme has now met all the conditions that it could practically meet, and at its December meeting the Council extended the DClinDent (oral medicine) programme's accreditation period until 31 December 2023, similar to the other postgraduate programmes. One assessment related condition remains open during its next student intake, and medicine-related clinical experience will require ongoing reporting.

The DClinDent (special needs dentistry) programme has continued to work hard to meet conditions, with further reporting on the clinical outplacements due early next year. The faculty of dentistry, the special needs dentistry programme and the Council worked together to monitor developments in these areas. Progress against the outstanding conditions will be considered by the Council early next year, with the programme currently accredited until 31 March 2020.

### [Fellowship of the Royals Australasian College of Dental Surgeons \(oral and maxillofacial surgery\) 2019 annual report](#)

Council accepted the Australian Dental Council /Dental Council (NZ) Accreditation Committee's recommendations that the 2019 annual report submitted by the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons for the Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery) programme:

- was satisfactory and met the requirements for continued accreditation.
- satisfied all outstanding monitoring requirements for the programme as imposed on the 29 May 2019.

As a condition to ensure Standard 5 – Assessment was met in full, the RACDS FRACDS (OMS) programme was required to provide a report by 30 June 2020 detailing how external experts would be used to assess final year trainees.

### [Recertification – detailed design](#)

The final detailed design of the new recertification programme will be shared with all practitioners and stakeholders in early 2020. At that time, more details about implementation of the new recertification programme including starting dates and what practitioners will be required to do will also be available for practitioners.