Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting in June 2020

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 June 2020.

COVID-19

The joint Ministry of Health and Dental Council COVID-19 Alert level 2 guidelines were issued on 11 May 2020.

The guidelines for alert level 1 are currently being finalised by the Council and the Ministry of Health.

ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Standards consultation

The revised ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Standards for Dental Practitioner Programs were released for public consultation in February 2020, with submissions closing on 20 April 2020.

Overall, there was broad support for the changes as proposed in the draft standards released for consultation.

The Council agreed to accept the updated accreditation standards, to come into effect on 1 January 2021, with the commitment to review the accreditation standards' cultural competence domain as part of the cultural competence framework development. Council fully acknowledged that broader participation of Māori and Pacific peoples were essential in developing standards that relate to providing culturally competent engagement and appropriate care for Māori and Pacific peoples.

The Report of the consultation on proposed changes to the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation standards for dental practitioner programs was also approved for publishing on the DC(NZ) and ADC websites after final consideration by both jurisdictions.