

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting 4 April 2016

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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 April 2016.

Consultation - International Society of Dental Regulators (ISDR) Dentist Accreditation Standards and Dentist Competencies

The Council approved the consultation submission on the ISDR Accreditation Standards and Dentist Competencies, subject to some minor amendments.

Review of recertification policy

The Council considered some options on the strategic approach for ensuring ongoing competence of oral health practitioners.

The options for the high level settings and direction of the future policy, included:

- options for the overall shape and level of change; and
- a framework for stratifying the policy based on risks at a system level and/or in terms of individual practitioners.

These would allow for the detailed policy to be developed.

Council noted that Rebekah Jenner, Consultant would continue to work with the secretariat to further develop the options presented in order to gain a better understanding of what the options would look like, and a paper will be presented for Council's consideration at the May 2016 meeting.

Proposed entry level competencies for dental specialties.

In November 2015 the Dental Board of Australia (DBA), in partnership with the Dental Council released the public consultation document on the proposed entry level competencies for dental specialties.

The consultation closed on 15 February 2016, and a total of 22 submissions were received.

As a result of the consultation feedback, minor amendments were made by the Expert Reference Group - Specialists (ERGS) at its meeting in March 2016. The final draft of competencies were considered and approved by DBA Board on 18 March 2016.

Council approved the specialist registration qualifications assessment framework and following competencies for dental specialties:

- Endodontics
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Oral Medicine
- Oral Pathology
- Oral Surgery
- Orthodontics
- Paediatrics
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics
- Public Health Dentistry
- Restorative Dentistry
- Special Needs Dentistry

Council noted that the Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology and Forensic Odontology competencies were not applicable in New Zealand.