

9 July 2013

Dear Practitioner,

Proposed prescribed qualification for the Dental Specialty: Oral Medicine Scope of Practice

Pursuant to section 12 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003, the Dental Council must, by notice published in the Gazette, prescribe the qualification or qualifications for every scope of practice.

Council granted accreditation to the DClinDent (Oral Medicine) programme in March 2013 as the dental component of the Oral Medicine Scope of Practice. Council is now proposing that the DClinDent (Oral Medicine) programme plus a recognised medical degree be included as a prescribed qualification for the Oral Medicine Scope of Practice.

The Medical Council has advised Council that the Avicenna Directory is the contemporary directory of medical schools, however in July 2012 it was announced that a single medical school directory is being established. The *World Directory of Medical Schools*, is currently in a transition period, and Avicenna can be utilised in the interim. Consequential changes to the other prescribed qualifications referring to the *WHO World Directory of Medical Schools* or the *ECFMG Faimer Directory* in the Oral Medicine and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Scopes of Practice, is proposed.

The objective of the consultation is to gather views from the sector to enable Council to make a final decision on the proposals. The Council seeks any comments on the proposals by **3 September 2013**.

In accordance with section 14 of the Act copies of this letter and the consultation document have been sent to all dentists, dental specialists, relevant associations and societies, the Ministry of Health, District Health Boards and other organisations with an interest. This letter and consultation document will also be published on the Council's website, with a similar invitation to comment.

Responses should be sent to:

Dental Council

PO Box 10-448

Wellington 6143

Fax: 04 499 1668

Email: consultations@dcnz.org.nz

Yours sincerely



Mark Rodgers

Acting Chief Executive

Consultation Document

Proposed Prescribed Qualification for the Dental Specialty: Oral Medicine Scope of Practice

RELEASED 9 JULY 2013

SUBMISSIONS DUE 3 SEPTEMBER 2013

Background

Dental Council is seeking your comments on the proposal to include the University of Otago DClinDent (Oral Medicine) plus a medical degree, as a prescribed qualification for the Oral Medicine Scope of Practice.

The University of Otago, Faculty of Dentistry has submitted a request for accreditation for its DClinDent (Oral Medicine) programme as the dental component of the prescribed qualification. The Faculty moved from a conjoint MDS/MBChB (Oral Medicine) programme to a DClinDent (Oral Medicine) programme, similar to all other dental specialty programmes. The Faculty noted Council's policy that for registration in the Oral Medicine Scope of Practice in New Zealand a medical degree is required, however it didn't comment on an appropriate medical degree for the prescribed qualification.

Following an accreditation review the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee agreed with the team's recommendation that the content of the DClinDent (Oral Medicine) was equivalent to the dental component of the conjoint MDS/MBChB (Oral Medicine). Council considered the accreditation committee's recommendation and granted accreditation to the DClinDent (Oral Medicine) programme¹, at its 4 March 2013 meeting, as the dental component of the Oral Medicine Scope of Practice.

Prescribing a Medical Degree

To help inform Council's view on an appropriate medical degree as the medical component of the prescribed qualification for the Oral Medicine Scope of Practice, Council approached the Medical Council of New Zealand for an opinion. Currently the Oral Medicine and Oral and Maxillofacial Scopes of Practice describe the medical degree requirement as:

.. medical degree from a medical school listed in the WHO World Directory of Medical Schools or the ECFMG Faimer Directory.

The Medical Council advised Council *that in recent years the Council has moved away from using the Faimer directory in favour of the Avicenna Global Directories of Education Institutions for Health Professions.*

¹ until December 2016

..... *the WHO has stopped publishing its own World Directory of Medical Schools, and instead now supports the Avicenna directory. In addition, the Faimer and Avicenna directories are being combined into a new directory to be administered by Avicenna*².

The directory provides some assurance that a graduate that attended the programmes, obtained a qualification that allow them to obtain a licence to practice medicine in the country where the course is offered³.

Council considered the Medical Council's advice and agreed to propose that the World Directory of Medical Schools be used as the medical component in conjunction with the DClinDent (Oral Medicine) programme for registration in the Oral Medicine Scope of Practice.

Consequential changes to the other prescribed qualifications accepting the *WHO World Directory of Medical Schools* or the *ECFMG Faimer Directory* in the Oral Medicine and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Scopes of Practice, is proposed.

Conclusion

Council is proposing to gazette the following as a prescribed qualification for the Oral Medicine Scope of Practice:

- *DClinDent (Oral Medicine) University of Otago; and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools.*

As a result of the changes to the medical school directories, Council is proposing to adopt the World Directory of Medical Schools for the medical degree component for the Oral Medicine Scope of Practice. Consequential changes to the other prescribed qualifications in the Oral Medicine and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Scopes of Practice, is proposed.

Draft notices for the prescribed qualifications for the Oral Medicine and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Scope of Practice are enclosed in Attachment 1.

Council is consulting on the proposal with persons and organisations identified in accordance with section 14 of the Act including all dentists, dental specialists, relevant associations and societies, the Ministry of Health, District Health Boards and other organisations with an interest. The proposal will also be published on the Council's website, with a similar invitation to comment.

The objective of the consultation is to gather views from the sector to enable Council to make a final decision on the proposal.

Council therefore seeks any comments on the proposal by **3 September 2013**.

² Announcement July 2012

³ www.avicenna.ku.dk/database/medicine

Consultation questions

Council invites all stakeholders to comment on this consultation document by responding to the following questions:

1. Do you agree/disagree with the proposal to adopt the *World Directory of Medical Schools* as the appropriate medical school directory, as the medical component for the Oral Medicine Scope of Practice, and the consequential changes to the prescribed qualifications for the Oral Medicine and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Scopes of Practice, as reflected in Attachment 1?
2. Do you agree/disagree with the following proposed prescribed qualification for the Oral Medicine Scope of Practice?

DClinDent (Oral Medicine) University of Otago; and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools

If you disagree with any of the proposals, please provide your reasons.

Appendix 1**Notice of Prescribed Qualifications**

Issued by the Dental Council pursuant to section 12 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003

Key:

Red text: new additions

~~Blue text:~~ deletions***Specialist Scopes of Practice******Scope of Practice for Oral Medicine Specialists*****Prescribed Qualifications**

- MDS/MBChB (Oral Medicine) University of Otago; or
- **D**ClinDent (Oral Medicine) University of Otago; and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the **World Directory of Medical Schools**⁴; or
- an ADC accredited MDS or MDS~~c~~ or **D**ClinDent degree in Oral Medicine from an ADC accredited dental school in Australia; a medical degree from a medical school listed in the ~~WHO World Directory of Medical Schools or the ECFMG Faimer~~ **World Directory of Medical Schools**⁵; or
- two years or more of full time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; evidence of research activity; a pass in the New Zealand Oral Medicine Specialist Examination.

Scope of Practice for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialists**Prescribed Qualifications**

- MDS/MBChB (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery) University of Otago; or
- **D**ClinDent (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery), University of Otago⁶; or
- an ADC accredited MDS or MDS~~c~~ or **D**ClinDent in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery from an ADC accredited Australian University; and a medical degree from a medical school listed in the ~~WHO World Directory of Medical Schools or the ECFMG Faimer~~ **World Directory of Medical Schools**⁷; or

⁴ Conferred from 2013

⁵ WHO World Directory of Medical Schools replaced by Avicenna since August 2008; and the Faimer IMED Directory signed an agreement in March 2012 with WFME's Avicenna Directory to collaborate in single directory - World Directory of Medical Schools. In the interim the Directory is available on Avicenna - www.avicenna.ku.dk/database/medicine

⁶ Entry criteria require completed undergraduate dentistry and medical degrees.

- Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery)⁸; or
- registration in oral and maxillofacial surgery with the General Medical Council, UK; or
- Board certification in oral and maxillofacial surgery in a USA or Canadian state and possession of a medical degree from a medical school listed in the [World Directory of Medical Schools](#)⁶ ~~WHO World Directory of Medical Schools or the ECFMG Faimer~~ and dental degree; or
- two years or more of full time equivalent postgraduate training in the specialty at a recognised tertiary academic institution or equivalent; and evidence of research activity; and a pass in the New Zealand Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialist Examination.

⁷ WHO World Directory of Medical Schools replaced by Avicenna since August 2008; and the Faimer IMED Directory signed an agreement in March 2012 with WFME's Avicenna Directory to collaborate in single directory - World Directory of Medical Schools. In the interim the Directory is available on Avicenna - www.avicenna.ku.dk/database/medicine

⁸ Conferred from 15 March 2012