

## Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting 11 February 2019

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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 February 2019.

### Election of the Chair and Deputy Chair

Under clause 3, schedule 3 of the Act, the Council must, at its first meeting of the year, elect from its membership a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

- Brig Andrew Gray was elected as Chair of the Dental Council.
- John Aarts was elected as Deputy Chair of the Dental Council.

### Oral health therapy scope of practice – restorative treatment

Council discussed the draft consultation document on the removal of the age limit for restorative activities from the oral health therapy scope of practice – including the following key principles in the proposal:

- The 18-year age limit be removed from the restorative activities in the OHT scope of practice.
- An exclusion, Restorative treatment on patients 18 years and older, will be placed on OHT scopes of practice until they remove the exclusion by completing an accredited adult restorative programme.
- Any new OHT registrant who have completed an accredited adult restorative programme will not have an exclusion placed on their OHT scope of practice.
- The activities that current registered oral health therapists can perform remain unchanged, unless they undertake additional training to enable them to perform restorative activities on patients of all ages, and get the exclusion removed from their scope of practice.
- Programmes to provide the necessary education and clinical experience for oral health therapists to perform restorative treatment on patients 18 years and older, will be accredited and gazetted against the OHT scope of practice.
- There are currently no New Zealand accredited adult restorative programmes; six Australian programmes offer the training as part of their undergraduate programmes, while three offer postgraduate courses.

Council approved the draft consultation document for public release - subject to further amendments.

## Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons (OMS) condition report

Council accepted the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee's recommendation that:

- 1) The December 2018 report submitted by the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons partially meets the condition of accreditation for the Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery) programme.
- 2) The condition be amended and request the College to provide evidence to the ADC/DC(NZ) of the completion of the ACER Stage 1 - Development and Enhancement project.
- 3) In addition, the College is to provide an update in its 2019 annual report advising stages 2 and 3 of the examination and assessment implementation plan have been completed.

## FRACDS (OMS) annual report

Council accepted the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee's recommendation that the Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery programme be accepted as satisfactory and continuing to meet accreditation standards.

## RCPA FFOMP annual report

Council accepted the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia's Fellowship of the Faculty of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology programme's annual report as satisfactory, and continuing to meet accreditation standards.