

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meeting in April 2020

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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 meetings held in April 2020.

COVID-19

The Council has partnered with the Ministry of Health to develop the COVID-19 alert level guidelines for oral health practitioners. During March, the following updates were issued:

- Ministry of Health and Dental Council joint statement: COVID-19 update to oral health practitioners-22 March
- Ministry of Health, Dental Council and Professional Associations' joint statement - 23 March
- Ministry of Health and Dental Council joint guidance for urgent and emergency oral health treatment - 25 March

Recertification policy

Council considered and approved the new recertification policy. It also considered the implications of COVID-19 on the existing recertification programme and the new recertification programme.

Due to the uncertainty with the COVID-19 situation and long-term effects of the alert level 4 lockdown, Council agreed to suspend current recertification programmes until further notice and defer the new recertification programme by 12 months. Council also agreed to consider the communications brief, details on the new timelines and implication for the existing programme at the May 2020 meeting.