



**AUSTRALIAN DENTAL COUNCIL  
REPORT OF AN EVALUATION OF  
UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND  
DOCTOR OF CLINICAL DENTISTRY IN  
SPECIAL NEEDS DENTISTRY**

**July 2017**

# SUMMARY REPORT

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

<b>Program provider</b>	University of Queensland
<b>Program/qualification name</b>	Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Special Needs Dentistry
<b>Program/qualification abbreviation</b>	DClinDent
<b>Program/qualification code</b>	5616
<b>Head office address, including State</b>	288 Herston Road (Cnr Bramston Terrace) Herston QLD 4006
<b>Campus</b>	Herston
<b>Program length</b>	3 Years
<b>Registration division</b>	Specialist Dentist
<b>Registration specialty</b>	Special Needs Dentistry
<b>Qualification type</b>	Masters Degree
<b>Australian Qualifications Framework Level</b>	9
<b>Accreditation standards version</b>	Accreditation Standards for Dental Practitioner Programs (Approved Dec 2014)
<b>Date of site evaluation</b>	28 July 2017
<b>Date of ADC decision</b>	18 August 2017
<b>Type of accreditation</b>	Initial Accreditation
<b>Accreditation start date</b>	1 January 2018
<b>Accreditation end date</b>	31 December 2022

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## Background

The University of Queensland's suite of Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (DClinDent) programs were first accredited by the Australian Dental Council (ADC) in 2004. At that time, the School offered programs in Endodontics, Periodontics, Orthodontics, Paediatric Dentistry, Oral Pathology & Oral Medicine, Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology and Prosthodontics, all of which were accredited by the ADC for a period of five years.

A subsequent ADC accreditation visit in 2010 reviewed programs in Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology, Oral Medicine, Orthodontics and Paediatric Dentistry as the other previously accredited DClinDent programs were put into abeyance by the School.

On 10 October 2014 the Head of School of Dentistry wrote to the ADC requesting a twelve-month extension to the accreditation of its four accredited DClinDent programs to allow for the relocation of the School to new facilities at the newly-built Oral Health Centre (OHC) in Herston and for an internal program review to be completed. The ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee agreed to the request at its 31 October 2014 meeting and accreditation for the four programs was extended to 31 December 2016.

In September 2016 the ADC conducted a review of the currently accredited DClinDent programs in Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology, Oral Medicine and Orthodontics as well as new DClinDent programs in Prosthodontics and Special Needs Dentistry (SND). The School had also initially included applications for the review of its DClinDent in Paediatric Dentistry and a new DClinDent in Periodontics but decided to withdraw both of the programs from the accreditation process.

At its November 2016 meeting the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee agreed to accredit the DClinDent programs in Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology, Orthodontics and Prosthodontics until 31 December 2021 and the DClinDent in Oral Medicine until 31 December 2018. All programs were subject to one or more conditions, details of which can be found in the ADC report of the accreditation visit. The DClinDent in SND was refused accreditation.

On 3 January 2017 the University entered into a formal 'Oral Health Alliance' (OHA) with Metro North Health and Hospital Services (MNHHS), which resulted in MNHHS taking over the day-to-day operations of the OHC. It is intended that the Alliance will result in access to a larger pool of patients for students in all University of Queensland dental programs. A consequence of the Alliance is that several staff hold conjoint appointments with the University of Queensland and MNHHS. The Director of the Alliance and the Clinical Stream Leads were appointed from existing University of Queensland staff.

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In February 2017 the University submitted a Notice of Intent, and subsequently a formal accreditation submission, for DClInDent programs in Endodontics, Periodontics and SND. A site visit to review the programs in Periodontics and Endodontics was undertaken on 5 July 2017 and is the subject of a separate report.

## Overview of the Evaluation

The Site Evaluation Team (SET) received the University of Queensland's 35-page submission against the Accreditation Standards, supporting appendices and subsequent information requested from the University following the SET teleconference of 22 May 2017. The SET undertook a site visit to the University and the OHC on 28 July 2017. During the visit, meetings were held with:

- The Head, School of Dentistry
- The Director, Oral Health Alliance
- The Executive Director, Metro North Oral Health Service (MNOHS)
- The HDR Coordinator and the Postgraduate Program Director
- The DClInDent Discipline Lead (Special Needs Dentistry)
- A range of academic staff responsible for teaching into the DClInDent program
- Other academic staff responsible for the DClInDent program

The SET also toured the facilities within the Oral Health Centre.

The findings in this report are based on the SET's assessment of the material outlined above, interview evidence and a review of the facilities at the time of the site visit.

## Key Findings

The School has developed a clear and comprehensive curriculum for its DClInDent in SND program. The Oral Health Alliance is expected to provide a suitable pool of patients for students and this will be supplemented by student rotations at a range of offsite clinics.

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Facilities at the Oral Health Centre are excellent and will support student learning, while a range of suitable support services is available to students both onsite and through the wider university.

The full time staff are well qualified to deliver the program and will be supported by a group of SND and other appropriate specialists. Program documents set out a comprehensive set of student assessments throughout the program.

## ADC Accreditation Decision

The ADC has determined that the University of Queensland's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Special Need Dentistry program is accredited from **1 January 2018** until **31 December 2022**.

As a monitoring requirement a monitoring visit is to be undertaken when the first cohort of students have completed 18 months of the program to ensure that the program is rolling out as intended. The monitoring visit is to include an inspection of at least one offsite clinic where students undertake placements.