



Australian Dental Council report of an evaluation of the University of Queensland's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine

June 2018

Summary report

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| Program provider | University of Queensland |
| Program/qualification name | Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine |
| Program/qualification abbreviation | DClinDent |
| Program/qualification code | 5404 |
| Head office address, including State | 288 Herston Road (Cnr Bramston Terrace) Herston QLD 4006 |
| Campus | Herston |
| Program length | 3 Years |
| Registration division | Specialist Dentist |
| Registration specialty | Oral Medicine |
| Qualification type | HE |
| Australian Qualifications Framework level | Level 9 |
| Accreditation standards version | Accreditation Standards for Dental Practitioner Programs (Approved Dec 2014) |
| Date of site evaluation | 13 June 2018 |
| Date of ADC decision | 2 November 2018 |
| Type of accreditation | Re-accreditation |
| Accreditation start date | 1 January 2019 |
| Accreditation end date | 31 December 2023 |

Background

The Australian Dental Council (ADC) last reviewed the University of Queensland's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (DClinDent) programs in Oral Medicine for the purpose of accreditation in 2016.

At the time of the 2016 review, the DClinDent in Oral Medicine program was refused accreditation, unless conditions regarding the curriculum, staffing, clinical rotations and assessments were met prior to the program's accreditation expiring on 31 December 2016.

The School of Dentistry submitted a condition report in December 2016, which the ADC determined satisfied all conditions of accreditation and the program was accredited for a shortened period until 31 December 2018 as concerns were identified with the staffing, curriculum content and clinical experiences available to students.

At the time of the 2018 site visit, no students were enrolled in the program, with the last student graduating at the end of 2017.

Overview of evaluation

An ADC SET conducted a site visit on 13 June 2018 to the OHC at Herston.

The SET reviewed the School of Dentistry's 36 page self-review against the Accreditation Standards, attached appendices and additional information requested following the SET's teleconference of 18 May 2018.

During the visit the SET interviewed a range of individuals, including:

- Head of School
- Teaching and Learning Chair and Oral Medicine Discipline Lead
- Acting School Manager
- Acting Student and Academic Services Officer
- Higher Degree by Research Coordinator
- Director of Research
- Acting Director Oral Health Alliance (OHA) and Prosthodontics Discipline Lead
- Clinical Services Change Manager
- Staff teaching into the Oral Medicine program
- A recent graduate of the Oral Medicine program.

The SET toured the facilities at the OHC at Herston and was provided with additional information including a log book of the recent graduate of the Oral Medicine program.

Following the site visit, the School of Dentistry requested that the process be suspended to allow further evidence to be gathered for the SET's consideration. The School resubmitted on 31 August 2018 and requested that the process recommence taking into consideration the previous submission and site visit.

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 DClinDent in Oral Medicine program has been the subject of significant changes since the ADC last reviewed the program in 2016. The program as presented has expanded the clinical rotations and experiences students are expected to receive. The seminar program looks to provide an appropriate grounding in the discipline, with rotations planned to provide practical application of the knowledge expected of a specialist.

The SET acknowledges that the School has put a great deal of work into developing the clinical rotations and relationships necessary to deliver the breadth and depth of training required to produce a graduate prepared for specialist practise. Monitoring of these experiences will be required as the SET was unable to determine the extent to which students would be actively involved in patient management during external rotations and to what extent they will be observers.

Although the plans appear adequate, it was not possible to determine the breadth of experience that students would receive as the clinical rotations are yet to be undertaken. An assessment of the quality of the learning experiences is required to ensure that the program is able to deliver its stated outcomes.

The assessment strategies used within the program are appropriate for the knowledge and skills assessed, however until further information is provided on the range of clinical experiences that students will receive, the SET cannot comment on whether students will have the opportunity to demonstrate competency across the breadth of the discipline expected of a specialist.

The School is encouraged to formalise processes for external input into the design and management of the program, as highlighted by the Academic Program Review (APR) undertaken in 2016, as this may assist to validate that the rotations are adequately addressing the learning needs of students.

ADC accreditation decision

The ADC has determined that the University of Queensland's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine program is accredited until **31 December 2023**.

As a monitoring requirement to ensure the program continues to comply with Standard 3 – Program of Study and Standard 5 – Assessment, a visit is to be undertaken at the end of the first year when a student next commences in the program to ensure the program is providing students with the range of experiences necessary to develop the entry-level competencies of a specialist in oral medicine.