



**AUSTRALIAN DENTAL COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF AN EVALUATION OF**

**GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY**

**DOCTOR OF CLINICAL DENTISTRY IN PERIODONTOLOGY**

**May 2015**

# SUMMARY REPORT

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

<b>Program provider</b>	Griffith University
<b>Program/qualification name</b>	Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Periodontology
<b>Program/qualification abbreviation</b>	DClinDent
<b>Program/qualification code</b>	5609
<b>Head office address, including State</b>	Gold Coast campus, Queensland 4222
<b>Campus</b>	Griffith Health Centre, School of Dentistry and Oral Health, Level 7, Parklands Drive, Gold Coast campus
<b>Program length</b>	3 Years
<b>Registration division</b>	Specialist
<b>Registration specialty</b>	Periodontics
<b>Qualification type</b>	Masters
<b>Australian Qualifications Framework Level</b>	9
<b>Accreditation standards version</b>	June 2010 Updated July 2013 - Version 1.0
<b>Date of site evaluation</b>	27-28 May 2015
<b>Date of ADC decision</b>	14 August 2015
<b>Type of accreditation</b>	Re-accreditation
<b>Accreditation start date</b>	1 January 2016
<b>Accreditation end date</b>	31 December 2020

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## Background

Griffith University's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (DClinDent) in Periodontology program is a full time, three year program that enables graduates to apply to the Dental Board of Australia (DBA) to register as specialists in periodontics.

The program was initially accredited in 2007, with the first student cohort commencing in 2008 and graduating in 2010. The program was reviewed in 2010 at which time accreditation was granted for a period of five years without conditions until 31 December 2015.

Griffith University has submitted annual reports to the Australian Dental Council (ADC) each year from 2011 through until 2014, which were determined to meet the requirements for continued accreditation.

## Overview of the Evaluation

An ADC Site Evaluation Team (SET) conducted a site visit on 27 and 28 May 2015 to the School of Dentistry and Oral Health (DOH) at Griffith University's Gold Coast Campus. The visit to assess the DClinDent program was a combined review with the Bachelor of Oral Health in Dental Sciences/Graduate Diploma of Dentistry (BOralH/GDipDent) program, which is the subject of a separate report.

The SET inspected clinical and learning and teaching facilities within the Griffith Health Centre. Students were observed in the clinic with patients.

The SET reviewed the School's 35 page self-review against the Standards, attached appendices and additional information requested following the SET's teleconference of 13 April 2015.

The SET interviewed a range of stakeholders, including:

- Pro Vice Chancellor Health
- Dean (Learning and Teaching)
- The Head of School
- Deputy Heads of School
- Program Director
- The School Finance Manager and Senior Financial Consultant
- Administrative and support staff
- Clinical Support Staff

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- Five students and two graduates of the program
- Members of the DOH Learning & Teaching Committee
- Queensland Health's Chief Dental Officer
- A representative of the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Periodontists (ANZAP)

During the site visit the SET was provided with further documentation including samples of clinical log books, sample examination questions and theses submitted.

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 of Dentistry and Oral Health is to be congratulated on the development of the program and the impressive facilities now in operation within the Griffith Health Centre. The School is well supported both academically and financially by the Health Group and the University overall.

The evidence presented in the submission and during interview indicates that the program is preparing students well for independent specialist practice at graduation. Students have sufficient access to an appropriate number and range of patients to develop the required knowledge and skills of a specialist periodontist. Student to staff ratios are appropriate and staff are well credentialed to provide leadership in the discipline and drive research within of the School.

The greatest challenge facing the program remains the lack of other specialist disciplines and opportunities for interaction with these specialists whilst at the Griffith Health Centre. Students would benefit an increase in the availability of prosthodontic and endodontic specialists in particular. The School is aware of these challenges and is looking at options to address them.

The School is aware of the issues identified with instruments not being included in kits returning from sterilisation, which is affecting both the DClinDent and dentistry programs. The SET was assured that plans are in place to resolve these issues. The School is also encouraged to review clinical protocols to ensure they recognise that students in the specialty program are registered dental practitioners in their own right.

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## ADC Accreditation Decision

The ADC has determined that Griffith University's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Periodontology program is re-accredited for a period of five (5) years without conditions until **31 December 2020**.