



**AUSTRALIAN DENTAL COUNCIL  
REPORT OF AN EVALUATION OF  
UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND  
DOCTOR OF CLINICAL DENTISTRY PROGRAMS IN:  
DENTO-MAXILLOFACIAL RADIOLOGY  
ORAL MEDICINE  
ORTHODONTICS  
PROSTHODONTICS  
SPECIAL NEEDS DENTISTRY**

**September 2016**

# SUMMARY REPORT

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

<b>Program provider</b>	University of Queensland
<b>Type of accreditation, Program/qualification names, Program/qualification abbreviation, Program/qualification code</b>	<b>Initial Accreditation</b> Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Prosthodontics, DClinDent, 5404 Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Special Needs Dentistry, DClinDent, 5404 <b>Re-accreditation</b> Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology, DClinDent, 5404 Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine, DClinDent, 5404 Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Orthodontics, DClinDent, 5404
<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>	Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology, Oral Medicine, Orthodontics, Prosthodontics, Special Needs Dentistry
<b>Qualification type</b>	Masters Degree
<b>Australian Qualifications Framework Level</b>	Level 9
<b>Accreditation standards version</b>	Accreditation Standards for Dental Practitioner Programs (Approved Dec 2014)
<b>Date of site evaluation</b>	31 August – 1 September 2016
<b>Date of ADC decision</b>	24 November 2016

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<b>Accreditation start date for the following programs only:</b> Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Prosthodontics Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Orthodontics	1 January 2017
<b>Accreditation end date for the following programs only:</b> Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Prosthodontics Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Orthodontics	31 December 2021
<b>Accreditation end date for the following programs only:</b> Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine	31 December 2016

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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 that were all 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. The timing of the accreditation visit led to a delay in the final decision on accreditation being made by the ADC, but all four programs were granted accreditation until 31 December 2015, subject to four conditions on the Oral Medicine program:

- (i) submission to the ADC of a student handbook confirming timetable, supervisory arrangements and clinical resources prior to commencement of students in the program;
- (ii) formal evaluation of student and program outcomes at the end of each year following commencement of students in the program;
- (iii) a Peer Review to be undertaken during the second year of student enrolments for report to the ADC prior to the end of that year;
- (iv) a further review of the program to occur in 2015 to assess the suitability of the program for ongoing accreditation.

At the time of the Site Evaluation Team (SET) visit, conditions i, ii and iv had been met. As the Oral Medicine program was in its second year in 2016 condition iii of accreditation had not been addressed at the time of the SET visit.

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 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 Accreditation Committee agreed to the request at its 31 October 2014 meeting and accreditation for the four programs was extended to 31 December 2016.

On 8 April 2016 the School of Dentistry supplied the ADC with a Notice of Intent that it planned to offer three additional DClinDent programs in the specialities of periodontics, prosthodontics and special needs dentistry from 2017. At its 29 April 2016 meeting the ADC Accreditation Committee noted the Notice of Intent and agreed that the review of the three new programs be amalgamated with the review of the four currently accredited DClinDent programs.

Subsequent to the submission, the School of Dentistry requested that the DClinDent in Paediatric Dentistry and DClinDent in Periodontics be withdrawn from the accreditation process.

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## Overview of the Evaluation

The SET received the University of Queensland's 41-page submission against the Accreditation Standards, 110 pages of appendices and subsequent information requested from the University following the SET teleconferences of 18 & 25 July 2016. The SET undertook a site visit to the university on 31 August and 1 September 2016. The visit on 31 August focussed on the Orthodontics, Oral Medicine and Prosthodontics programs while the visit on 1 September focussed on the Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology and Special Needs Dentistry programs. During the visit, meetings were held with:

- The Head of School of Dentistry
- A range of administrative, financial, quality assurance and clinical administration staff
- The Director of Research, Teaching & Learning Chair and Program Director
- School Administrative staff
- The DClinDent Discipline Leads
- A range of academic staff responsible for teaching into the DClinDent programs
- Other academic staff responsible for the DClinDent program
- A representative group of students and graduates
- The Executive Director of Metro North Health Services

The SET also toured the facilities within the School of Dentistry and met with a range of clinical demonstrators and clinical staff.

During the site visit the SET was provided with further documentation including sample theses, log books and examination papers.

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 has been through a period of recent change with a newly appointed Head of School having taken up position in June 2016, reviews of many of its programs having been undertaken in the last 12-18 months and three new DClinDent programs submitted for initial accreditation.

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The School has a robust academic governance structure in place and excellent facilities available at the recently completed Oral Health Centre. There are currently issues with patient numbers and case mix at the Oral Health Centre, but an imminent 'Alliance' with Metro North Health Service should provide a much greater range of both for students. Student experience also appears positive with appropriate support mechanisms in place and good representation of students within the School's deliberative processes.

However, the SET had strong concerns about the ability of a number of the programs to meet the Accreditation Standards.

Of the currently accredited DClintDent programs the DClintDent in Orthodontics and the DClintDent in Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology are well structured and resourced and the programs provide the graduates with the necessary professional competencies for speciality practice.

The DClintDent in Oral Medicine does not meet several aspects of the Accreditation Standards and the SET had grave concerns over the curriculum content, staffing and the clinical experience in the program which the SET did not believe was sufficient to prepare the students for practice.

Of the two programs submitted for initial accreditation the DClintDent in Prosthodontics appears that it will meet the Accreditation Standards based on the documentation viewed by the SET. A condition is proposed regarding program staffing as is a monitoring visit in 2017 to ensure that the program is being implemented as presented to the SET.

The SET had grave concerns that the DClintDent in Special Needs Dentistry was not at a point in its development where it could meet the Accreditation Standards. In particular, the SET were concerned that the program as presented did not meet the Standards in the areas of curriculum, staffing, clinical experience and assessment and that, on the available evidence, would be insufficient to prepare students for practice, particularly given the projected intake of two to three students per year.

## ADC Accreditation Decision

### **Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology**

The ADC has determined that the University of Queensland's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Dento-Maxillofacial Radiology program is re-accredited until **31 December 2021** subject to the following condition:

- 1) In order to fully meet Standard 3 – Program of Study – the School of Dentistry must provide a report to the ADC confirming the formalisation of the agreement with a health service. The report should confirm:

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- The delineation of responsibilities between all parties
- The appointment of the Director and Clinical Stream Leads
- The relationship between the academic leads and the clinical stream leads which must be defined to enable to allow for the flow of appropriate patients for postgraduate students

The report must be provided to the ADC no later than **31 December 2016**.

## **Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Orthodontics**

The ADC has determined that the University of Queensland's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Orthodontics program is re-accredited until **31 December 2021** subject to the following condition:

- 1) In order to fully meet Standard 3 – Program of Study – the School of Dentistry must provide a report to the ADC confirming the formalisation of the agreement with a health service. The report should confirm:
  - The delineation of responsibilities between all parties
  - The appointment of the Director and Clinical Stream Leads
  - The relationship between the academic leads and the clinical stream leads which must be defined to enable to allow for the flow of appropriate patients for postgraduate students

The report must be provided to the ADC no later than **31 December 2016**.

## **Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Prosthodontics**

The ADC has determined that the University of Queensland's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Prosthodontics program is accredited from **1 January 2017** until **31 December 2021** subject to the following conditions:

- 1) In order to fully meet Standard 3 – Program of Study – the School of Dentistry must provide a report to the ADC confirming the formalisation of the agreement with a health service. The report should confirm:
  - The delineation of responsibilities between all parties
  - The appointment of the Director and Clinical Stream Leads

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- The relationship between the academic leads and the clinical stream leads which must be defined to enable to allow for the flow of appropriate patients for postgraduate students

The report must be provided to the ADC no later than **31 December 2016**.

- 2) In order to fully meet Standard 3 – Program of Study – the School of Dentistry must provide to the ADC a list of all staff formally engaged to deliver the program from the beginning of 2017. The report should include clear details of the level of engagement of each staff member, teaching and supervision commitments and evidence of how the staff group is sufficient to deliver the program. This report is to be submitted to the ADC no later than **31 December 2016**.

The ADC has determined that as a monitoring requirement a visit be conducted during 2017 to ensure that the program is being implemented as presented to the SET and that it continues to meet the Accreditation Standards. The visit will include a review of the prosthetics laboratory within the Oral Health Centre.

## Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine

The ADC has determined that the University of Queensland's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine program is **refused** accreditation following the expiry of the current accreditation period on **31 December 2016** unless the following conditions are met by **31 December 2016**:

- 1) In order to fully meet Standard 3 – Program of Study – the School of Dentistry must:
  - a. Revise the program curriculum to ensure sufficient didactic and clinical coverage in orofacial pain, Temporomandibular disorder (TMD) and dental sleep medicine to allow students to achieve competency in these areas
  - b. Increase the number of staff with specialist oral medicine qualifications to deliver the program to ensure that it contains sufficient academic and clinical experience in oral medicine to deliver all areas of the revised program curriculum
  - c. Revise its options for student external rotations to ensure sufficient exposure for students in all areas of oral medicine including haematology, neurology, rheumatology, pain medicine, psychiatry and immunology
- 2) In order to fully meet Standard 5 – Assessment – the School of Dentistry must revise its assessment matrix to ensure alignment with the revised program curriculum and ensure that all professional competencies for the speciality are assessed.

A report fully addressing conditions 1 and 2 must be submitted to the ADC by **31 December 2016**.

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## **Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Special Needs Dentistry**

The ADC has determined that the University of Queensland's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Special Need Dentistry program is **refused** accreditation.