# AUSTRALIAN DENTAL COUNCIL
# REPORT OF AN EVALUATION OF
# UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY
# DOCTOR OF CLINCAL DENTISTRY PROGRAMS IN:

## ORAL MEDICINE
## ORTHODONTICS
## PAEDIATRIC DENTISTRY
## PERIODONTICS
## PROSTHODONTICS
## SPECIAL CARE DENTISTRY

## April 2015

# 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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|---|---|
| **Program provider** | University of Sydney |
| **Program/qualification names, Program/qualification abbreviation, Program/qualification code** | Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine, DClinDent, TCCLDORM1000<br>Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Orthodontics, DClinDent, TCCLDORD1000<br>Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Paediatric Dentistry, DClinDent, TCCLDPAD1000<br>Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Periodontics, DClinDent, TCCLDPER1000<br>Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Prosthodontics, DClinDent, TCCLDPRO1000<br>Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Special Care Dentistry, DClinDent, TCCLDSCD1000 |
| **Head office address, including State** | The University of Sydney, NSW 2006 |
| **Campuses** | Sydney Dental Hospital, Surry Hills and Westmead Centre for Oral Health |
| **Program length** | 3 years |
| **Registration division** | Specialist Dentist |
| **Registration specialty** | Oral Medicine,Orthodontics, Paediatric Dentisty, Periodontics, Prosthodontics, Special Needs Dentistry |
| **Qualification type** | HE |
| **Australian Qualifications Framework Level** | Level 9 |
| **Accreditation standards version** | Version 1, June 2010 |
| **Date of site evaluation** | 22 - 23 April 2015 |
| **Date of ADC decision** | 14 August 2015 |
| **Type of accreditation** | Re-accreditation |
| **Accreditation start date** | 1 January 2016 |
| **Accreditation end date** | 31 December 2020 |

# SUMMARY REPORT

**Background**

The University of Sydney's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (DClinDent) programs were last reviewed for the purposes of accreditation by the Australian Dental Council (ADC) in 2010. The ADC determined that all programs, excluding the DClinDent in Special Care Dentistry (SCD) and the DClinDent in Prosthodontics programs, be accredited until 31 December 2015 without conditions.

The DClinDent in SCD was accredited until 31 December 2014, subject to the condition that external examiners appointed by the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Special Needs Dentistry (ANZASND) assess the student enrolled in the program. This condition was met in 2013 and accreditation was extended until 31 December 2015 to bring the program into line with other disciplines.

The DClinDent in Prosthodontics was accredited until 31 December 2015 subject to a report demonstrating that a more robust mentoring program for students had been implemented. This condition was satisfied in 2012 and accreditation was maintained until 31 December 2015.

In 2014 the University of Sydney changed the title of the DClinDent in Oral Medicine program (previously known as the DClinDent in Oral Medicine and Oral Pathology) to align with the registration divisions as recognised by the Dental Board of Australia (DBA).

Since the previous accreditation visit, the ADC has implemented a revised policy for the accreditation of programs that enable graduates to apply to the DBA for specialist registration by combining the accreditation process with the peer review process. The Site Evaluation Team (SET) incorporates specialists nominated by relevant academies/societies with expert knowledge in each discipline into the review process to ensure the content is contemporary and that each program equips graduates with the competencies expected by the profession for independent specialist practice.

# SUMMARY REPORT

**Overview of the Evaluation**

An ADC Site Evaluation Team (SET) conducted a site visit on 22 April (Westmead Centre for Oral Health (WCOH)) and 23 April (Sydney Dental Hospital (SDH)) 2015. The 22 April 2015 visit to Westmead included specialists reviewing the DClinDent programs in Oral Medicine, Paediatric Dentistry, Prosthodontics and Special Care Dentistry while the 23 April 2015 visit to Sydney Dental Hospital included specialists reviewing the DClinDent programs in Orthodontics and Periodontics. During both days the SET inspected clinical and learning and teaching facilities at the respective locations.

The SET reviewed the School's self-review against the Standards, attached appendices and additional information requested following the SET's teleconferences prior to the site visit.

During the site visit the SET interviewed a range of stakeholders including:

- The Dean, Faculty of Dentistry
- The Course coordinator for each specialist program
- Other academic staff with overall responsibility for the program
- Other teaching staff for each program
- The Director, Westmead Centre for Oral Health
- The Faculty Manager and Faculty Finance Officer
- Students from all years of each program, as well as recent graduates
- A range of support staff based at the Sydney Dental Hospital

During the site visit the SET was provided with further documentation including samples of student clinical log books, theses 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

# SUMMARY REPORT

**Key Findings**

Many of the DClinDent programs have developed well since the previous ADC accreditation visit. Teaching facilities for all programs are appropriate. Each program is led by a qualified specialist, supported by enthusiastic and appropriately qualified staff. The Faculty of Dentistry, and the individual programs, have strong links with New South Wales Health which ensures that students receive exposure to an appropriate number and range of patients for their specialist program. Students across all programs appear positive and engaged.

The delivery of the DClinDent programs across the two sites – Westmead Centre for Oral Health and Sydney Dental Hospital – reduces the opportunity for the students to collaborate and ensure multi-disciplinary patient care. The University is currently exploring options for bringing the delivery of all DClinDent programs onto one site and this is encouraged by the SET.

There is a lack of consistency across the DClinDent programs in a number of areas – particularly with respect to research requirements, use of log books, documentation provided to students and the quantum of undergraduate teaching undertaken. Closer alignment of these areas across DClinDent programs is recommended through a range of general and program-specific quality assurance recommendations.

A number of Standards were identified by the SET as being 'Substantially met'. While none of the shortfalls were considered significant enough to impact on the overall recommendation to re-accredit the programs these areas will need to be addressed through a number of conditions. In particular, there should be greater consistency in admissions requirements across all programs, much clearer evidence that program outcomes are consistently evaluated and acted upon and that there are clear strategies in place to improve the programs.

**ADC Accreditation Decision**

The ADC had determined that the following University of Sydney programs are re-accredited until **31 December 2020**:

Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine

Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Orthodontics
Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Paediatric Dentistry
Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Periodontics
Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Prosthodontics
Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Special Care Dentistry

Subject to the following conditions:

For all programs:

In order to fully meet Standard 1 - Overview of the program – that the Faculty of Dentistry complete the consolidation of the management of the research component of its DClinDent programs to ensure appropriate oversight and consistency of the minimum University requirements for research as stated in the Course Resolutions.  A report on the progress of the consolidation process, detailing any changes made as a result, is to be provided to the ADC **by 31 December 2015**.

In order to fully meet Standard 10 – Admissions Policies and Procedures – the Faculty must report to the ADC by **31 December 2015** how the admissions criteria and processes have been standardised across disciplines. The report should detail the admissions procedure for each discipline, any exemptions or additional requirements that may apply from the documented selection criteria, include details of selection committees, key dates and details of the formal appeals policy.

In order to fully meet Standard 20 – Evaluation of Outcomes - the Faculty of Dentistry must provide evidence to the ADC that regular evaluation of all its DClinDent programs occurs, including the collection of student feedback, together with evidence that evaluation and feedback is acted upon to improve the programs. This evidence is to be provided to the ADC by **31 December 2015**.

In order to fully meet Standard 21 – Strategies for improvement – the Faculty of Dentistry provides details of agreed strategies that are in place, or are proposed, to improve its DClinDent programs - including strategies to address the weaknesses and threats identified in the SWOT analysis submitted to the ADC.  This information to be provided to the ADC by **31 December 2015**.

# SUMMARY REPORT

In addition:

For the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine:

In order to fully meet Standard 3 – Peer Evaluation and Standard 13 – Scholarship and Expertise – the Faculty of Dentistry is to provide evidence to the ADC by **31 October 2016** that the curriculum and learning outcomes of the program have been reviewed and that adequate training is provided in the management of orofacial pain and temporomandibular disorders.

In order to fully meet Standard 14 – Student Assessment – the Faculty of Dentistry is to provide evidence to the ADC by **31 October 2016** of the implementation of a consistent method of assessment and identify how this is mapped to the revised learning outcomes.

For the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Periodontics

In order to fully meet Standard 9 – Specialist Staff – the Faculty of Dentistry is to review the arrangements for supervision of students at Westmead Centre for Oral Health and provide a report to the ADC by **31 December 2015** outlining the steps taken to ensure a suitably qualified practitioner is available at all times to supervise students whilst in clinics.

In order to fully meet Standard 14 – Student Assessment – the Faculty of Dentistry is to provide evidence to the ADC by **31 December 2015** of the implementation of a consistent method of assessment for clinical sessions including training or guidance provided to staff responsible for supervising students.

For the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Special Care Dentistry

In order to fully meet Standard 3 – Peer evaluation- the Faculty of Dentistry's DClinDent in SCD program must create individual subjects with defined learning outcomes specific to the discipline that are approved for use by the Learning and Teaching Committee and provide a report to the ADC outlining the changes made by **31 October 2016**.

# SUMMARY REPORT

In order to fully meet Standard 13 – Scholarship and Expertise - The curriculum elements of oral medicine and paediatric dentistry must be reviewed to establish an appropriate balance for the program. A report to the ADC outlining the changes must be made by **31 October 2016**.

In order to fully meet Standard 14 – Student Assessment – the Faculty of Dentistry is to provide evidence to the ADC by **31 October 2016** of mapping of the assessment methods to the learning outcomes in the evolving curriculum.