



Australian
Dental
Council

**AUSTRALIAN DENTAL COUNCIL
REPORT OF AN EVALUATION OF
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
DOCTOR OF CLINICAL DENTISTRY PROGRAMS IN:
ORAL MEDICINE
PERIODONTICS**

July 2017

SUMMARY REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Program provider	University of Western Australia
Program/qualification names, Program/qualification abbreviation, Program/qualification code	Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine, DCLinDent, 90840 Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Periodontics, DCLinDent, 90840
Head office address, including State	School of Dentistry, 17 Monash Avenue, Nedlands WA 6009
Campus	Crawley
Program length	3 Years
Registration division	Specialist Dentist
Registration specialty	Oral Medicine, Periodontics
Qualification type	Masters Degree
Australian Qualifications Framework Level	9
Accreditation standards version	Accreditation Standards for Dental Practitioner Programs (Approved Dec 2014)
Date of site evaluation	25 July 2017
Date of ADC decision	18 August 2017
Type of accreditation	Re-Accreditation
Accreditation start date	1 January 2018
Accreditation end date	31 December 2022

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Background

The Australian Dental Council (ADC) last reviewed the University of Western Australia's (UWA's) suite of Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (DClinDent) programs in 2015. At that time a combined review of the five programs in Endodontics, Orthodontics, Paediatric Dentistry, Periodontics and Oral Medicine & Oral Pathology was undertaken. Details of the review can be found in the associated accreditation report, available on the ADC website.

Following the review the programs in Endodontics, Orthodontics and Paediatric Dentistry were accredited until 31 December 2020. The programs in Periodontics and Oral Medicine and Oral Pathology did not meet several of the accreditation standards. As a result the ADC imposed several conditions on both programs and determined that both programs be refused accreditation unless the conditions were satisfied by 31 December 2015 (being the expiry of the current period of accreditation for both programs). The School of Dentistry provided a response to all conditions on 31 December 2015. The response included notification that the School had changed the title of the DClinDent in Oral Medicine & Oral Pathology to a DClinDent in Oral Medicine.

At its meeting of 28 January 2016 the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee determined that the DClinDent programs in Periodontics and Oral Medicine be accredited until 31 December 2017.

Overview of the Evaluation

The SET received UWA's submissions against the Accreditation Standards and subsequent information requested from the University following the SET teleconference of 15 June 2017. The SET undertook a site visit to UWA on 25 July 2017. During the visit, meetings were held with:

- The Pro Vice Chancellor and Executive Dean, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences (FHMS)
- The Dean/Head, School of Dentistry
- The Chairs of the DClinDent Sub-Committee and the Research Committee
- The School Finance Manager
- The Clinical Operations Manager
- The Manager, Operational Support
- The Team Leader, Academic Services

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- The DClinDent Program Convenors for Oral Medicine and Periodontics
- Other academic staff responsible for the DClinDent program
- A representative group of students
- A recent graduate of the Oral Medicine program

The SET also toured the facilities at the Oral Health Centre of Western Australia (OHCWA) and met with a range of clinical demonstrators and clinical staff. Facilities within the FHMS and the School of Dentistry were also viewed.

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

Both programs have undergone significant development since the previous accreditation visit. The School has also put in place a number of positive administrative changes around its programs, including the standardisation of course documentation, which is to be commended.

Governance systems with the Dental School are clear and appropriate and senior Faculty of Health and Medical Science staff are supportive of the programs.

While the curricula for both programs has developed over the previous two years there is still some shortfall in particular areas, which will mean that students will find it difficult to achieve the full range of the Dental Board of Australia's 'Entry Level Competencies for Dental Specialties'. For the Oral Medicine program these shortfalls, in the active patient management of complex cases, have been recognised by the School and it has identified suitable additional external rotations that, if implemented promptly, will allow all current and future students to achieve the relevant competencies by the point of graduation. Within the Periodontics program the SET had serious concerns about the lack of prosthodontic support for treatment planning and restorative dentistry and student clinical exposure to managing complex cases, particularly with respect to complex implant cases. Both of these issues need to be addressed to ensure compliance with accreditation standard 3 – Program of Study.

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ADC Accreditation Decision

The ADC has determined that the University of Western Australia's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine program is accredited until **31 December 2022**.

As a monitoring requirement for the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Oral Medicine program, the Dental School is asked to advise the ADC in writing that it has implemented the planned external student rotations to provide sufficient coverage in all of the areas of oral medicine outlined in the 'Curriculum for Oral Medicine'. The advice, which should include details of the nature, location and length of the external rotations, is to be provided to the ADC by **31 December 2017**.

The ADC has determined that the University of Western Australia's Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Periodontics program is accredited until **31 December 2022** subject to the following conditions:

In order to meet Standard 3 – Program of Study, and to ensure that students gain sufficient clinical exposure to achieve the Dental Board of Australia's 'Entry Level Competencies for Dental Specialties' in the field of periodontics the Dental School must:

- a) Put in place immediate prosthodontic support for treatment planning and restorative dentistry for implants. The School is to advise the ADC of what measures it has put in place to ensure this by **30 September 2017**.
- b) Put in place longer term plans for prosthodontic support for treatment planning and restorative dentistry for implants. The School is to advise the ADC of what measures it has put in place to ensure this by **31 January 2018**.
- c) The School must review the clinical component of the program to ensure that clinical education produces a graduate competent in managing complex cases, particularly with respect to implant cases. The School is to advise the ADC of what amendments it has made to the clinical component of the program by **31 January 2018**.