

REPORT OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON ORTHODONTICS AND DENTOFACIAL ORTHOPEDICS EDUCATION TO THE COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION

Committee Chair: Dr. Glenn Sameshima. Committee Members: Dr. Sarandeep Huja, Dr. Howard Lieb, Dr. Juan Palomo, and Dr. Emile Rossouw. Ms. Marty Nicholson was unable to attend the meeting. Guests (Open Session Only, Virtual): Dr. Sheila Brear, chief learning officer, American Dental Education Association (ADEA), and Ms. Michelle Ritterskamp, continuing education senior specialist, American Association of Orthodontists (AAO), attended the policy portion of the meeting. Commission Staff: Ms. Yesenia Ruiz, manager, Advanced Dental Education, Ms. Peggy Soeldner, manager, Advanced Dental Education, Dr. Sherin Took, senior director, and Ms. Shelby Burgus, senior project assistant, Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). The meeting of the Review Committee on Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Education (ORTHO RC) was held on January 12, 2024, via a virtual meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO ORTHODONTICS AND DENTOFACIAL ORTHOPEDICS EDUCATION

Report on Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Programs (Residency and Fellowship) Annual Survey Curriculum Section (p. 1100): The Review Committee on Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Education (ORTHO RC) noted that the Annual Survey Curriculum Section is reviewed during the Winter Review Committee meeting in the year the survey will be distributed, which will next occur in August/September 2024.

At its Winter 2024 meeting, the ORTHO RC reviewed each question on the Annual Survey Curriculum Section for both orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics residency programs (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1100**) and clinical fellowship training programs in craniofacial and special care orthodontics (**Appendix, Policy Report p. 1100**) and determined that the questions on the Curriculum Section for orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedic programs were appropriate in relation to the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedic (Residency and Fellowship). Therefore, the ORTHO RC recommended that the Curriculum Section for orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedic programs be retained with no changes.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct the Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Annual Survey Curriculum Section for orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics programs, Residency and Fellowship, (**Appendix 1 and Appendix 2, Policy Report p. 1100**) be retained with no changes for use in Fall 2024.

Consideration of Proposed Revision to Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Related to Faculty Ratios (p. 1101): On September 18, 2023, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) received a request from Dr. Daniel Rinchuse, professor and program director at Seton Hill University, to consider a proposed revision to Standards 2-9 and 2-10 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Program in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics. The request is found in **Appendix 1, Policy Report 1101.**

At its Winter 2024 meeting, the Review Committee on Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Education (ORTHO RC) reviewed the request from Dr. Daniel Rinchuse on faculty-to-student/residents ratios in the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Program in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics. The Committee began with a discussion of the process to revise Accreditation Standards. The ORTHO RC recalled that the Standards were revised to assure the quality of education provided to students/residents within the program. The Committee noted that the Council of Education (COE) of the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO), and the Society of Educators (SOE) reviewed and received feedback from the orthodontic community on these Standards before submitting them to the Commission on Dental Accreditation. However, the ORTHO RC believed that the Standards may need to be reviewed at this time to ensure clarity given their intent and impact of their application on educational programs.

Regarding Standard 2-9, the ORTHO RC discussed that there may be confusion related to the ratio as it pertains to faculty interaction with students/residents in the entire program. The ORTHO RC noted that the faculty-to-student/resident ratio in Standard 2-9, requires one (1) faculty to every four (4) students/residents, including all the faculty “for the entire program,” and it is not limited to board-certified orthodontists. It was noted that the further consideration of this Standard and the portion “for the entire program,” is warranted.

The ORTHO RC noted that Standard 2-10 concentrates on clinical coverage for student/resident education, which could be affected by external factors such as limited faculty, unexpected faculty absences due to illness, and the students’/residents’ competence level. It was also noted in the request that the number of patients per student/resident may affect the ratio of faculty needed to oversee student/resident clinical care provided to patients. The ORTHO RC also noted that consideration of this Standard may warrant a review of procedure-based ratios to assure adequate faculty supervision based on the complexity of procedures that may be performed by students/residents.

Following discussion, the ORTHO Review Committee recommended formation of an Ad Hoc Committee of ORTHO RC members to further review Standards 2-9 and 2-10. The ORTHO RC also recommended that the Ad Hoc Committee include two (2) to three (3) individuals from a group of individuals nominated by the AAO and selected by the Commission. Further, the ORTHO RC recommended that the Commission contact the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO), Council on Education (COE), and Society of Educators (SOE) to provide

feedback to the CODA Ad Hoc Committee, including information on this topic from orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics education programs.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee composed of members of the ORTHO RC and nominees from the American Association of Orthodontists to review Standards 2-9 and 2-10 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Program in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics, with a future report to the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

It is further recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation contact the American Association of Orthodontists to request nominations of individuals who may serve on the Ad Hoc Committee to review Standards 2-9 and 2-10, from which the Commission will appoint two (2) to three (3) individuals.

It is further recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation contact the American Association of Orthodontists, Council on Education (COE), and Society of Educators (SOE) to request feedback for consideration by the CODA Ad Hoc Committee, including information on this topic from orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics education programs.

Consideration of Proposed Revisions to Improve Diversity in Dental and Dental Related Education Programs (p. 1102): On December 1, 2023, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) received a letter from The National Coalition of Dentists for Health Equity (TNCDHE). The request is found in **Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1102**. In its letter, TNCDHE provides short-term and long-term suggestions to CODA to improve diversity in all academic dental, allied dental, and advanced dental education programs.

At its Winter 2024 meeting, the Review Committee on Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedic Education (ORTHO RC) reviewed the letter from The National Coalition of Dentists for Health Equity. The letter noted several areas of concern, especially addressing the site visitor's training on diversity. The ORTHO Review Committee noted this issue concerns all the other advanced dental disciplines, and it is not specific to Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics programs only.

Following discussion, the ORTHO RC concluded that the Commission should review the letter sent by TNCDHE through an Ad Hoc Committee for more clarity on diversity and to ensure consistency in revisions.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee composed of all advanced dental education Commissioners to consider possible revisions and, if revised, to ensure consistency in any changes to advanced dental education Standards related to the letter from The National Coalition of Dentists for Health Equity.

**CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATING TO MORE THAN
ONE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Matters related to more than one review committee are included in a separate report.

**CONSIDERATION OF SITE VISITOR APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMISSION ON
DENTAL ACCREDITATION IN THE AREA OF ORTHODONTICS AND
DENTOFACIAL ORTHOPEDICS EDUCATION**

The Review Committee on Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Education (ORTHO RC) considered site visitor appointments for 2024-2025. The Committee's recommendations on the appointments of individuals are included in a separate report.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO ACCREDITATION STATUS

Matters related to accreditation status of programs are included in a separate report.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Glenn Sameshima
Chair, Review Committee on Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Education