CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL RADIOLOGY EDUCATION

Report on Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Programs Annual Survey Curriculum Section (p. 900): The Review Committee on Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Education (OMR 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. The OMR RC considered its discipline-specific Annual Survey Curriculum Section (Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 900).

At its Winter 2024 meeting, the OMR RC reviewed each question on the Annual Survey Curriculum Section and determined that the questions on the Curriculum Section for oral and maxillofacial radiology programs were appropriate in relation to the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology. The OMR RC noted that a new Standard 4-16 will be implemented July 1, 2024 and suggested this be considered for addition the next time the Annual Survey Curriculum Section is reviewed. Therefore, the OMR RC recommended that the Curriculum Section for oral and maxillofacial radiology programs be retained with no changes.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct the Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Annual Survey Curriculum Section for oral and maxillofacial radiology programs (Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 900) be retained with no changes for use in Fall 2024.

Informational Report on the Conduct of a Validity and Reliability Study for the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology (p. 901): The Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology were adopted by the Commission on Dental Accreditation at its August 2, 2019 meeting for immediate implementation.

As stated in the Commission’s “Policy on Assessing the Validity and Reliability of the Accreditation Standards” (Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 901), the Commission believes that a
minimum time span should elapse between the adoption of new standards or implementation of standards that have undergone a comprehensive revision and the assessment of the validity and reliability of these standards. This minimum period of time is directly related to the academic length of the accredited programs in each discipline. The Commission believes this minimum period is essential in order to allow time for programs to implement the new standards and to gain experience in each year of the curriculum.

The Commission’s policy for assessment is based on the following formula:

*The validity and reliability of accreditation standards will be assessed after they have been in effect for a period of time equal to the minimum academic length of the accredited program plus three years.*

Thus, the validity and reliability of the new standards for a one-year program will be assessed after four years, while standards applying to programs two years in length will be assessed five years after implementation.

Accordingly, the validity and reliability study for Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology will be initiated in the spring of 2024. Survey results will be considered at the Summer 2024 meetings of the Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Review Committee Education (OMR RC) and the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

In cooperation with the ADA’s HPI, a timetable will be developed, surveys will be distributed to the audiences, and responses will be due to the HPI within two (2) weeks of receipt of the survey. A sample format of the survey is presented in Appendix 2, Policy Report p. 901. Following a period of follow-up with non-respondents, the data will be tabulated and analysis completed by June 1, 2024. Commission staff will prepare a report with results of the study for consideration by the Commission at its Summer 2024 meeting.

**Recommendation:** This report is informational in nature and no action is required.

**Consideration of Proposed Revisions to Improve Diversity in Dental and Dental Related Education Programs (p. 902):** 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. 902. 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 Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Education (OMR RC) reviewed the letter from The National Coalition of Dentists for Health Equity. The Committee discussed the short-term and long-term suggestions presented, noting the short-term suggestion related to ensuring site visit teams are inclusive of educators who represent diversity and agreed it is important to the discipline and profession. The RC discussed that the oral and maxillofacial radiology discipline, in terms of students/residents and educators,
is currently well diversified and also agreed continued efforts to ensure and promote diversity is warranted.

The OMR RC noted the long-term suggestions from the TNCDHE included suggested revisions to various Accreditation Standards. Following discussion, the OMR RC believed that further review and consideration of potential revision to the Accreditation Standards for oral and maxillofacial radiology education programs could occur in conjunction with study of the results of the Validity and Reliability Study of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology to be conducted in Spring 2024, with a report to the Commission in Summer 2024.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct further review and consideration of potential revision to the Accreditation Standards related to diversity, as suggested by The National Coalition of Dentists for Health Equity, in conjunction with study of the results of the Validity and Reliability Study of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology in Spring 2024, with a report to the Commission in Summer 2024.

**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 ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL RADIOLOGY EDUCATION**

The Review Committee on Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Education 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. Jeffery Price
Chair, Review Committee on Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Education