

REPORT OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON POSTDOCTORAL GENERAL DENTISTRY EDUCATION TO THE COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION

Committee Chair: Dr. Miriam Robbins. Committee Members: Dr. Gary Fischer, Dr. Neal Henning, Dr. Yasser Khaled, Dr. Sally Jo Placa, Dr. Frank Romano, Dr. Eric Sung, Mr. Glenn Unser, and Dr. Michelle Ziegler. Staff Members: Ms. Peggy Soeldner, manager, Advanced Dental Education and Ms. Bridget Blackwood, senior project assistant, CODA. The meeting of the Review Committee on Postdoctoral General Dentistry Education (PGD RC) was held on January 13-14, 2022 via a virtual meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO POSTDOCTORAL GENERAL DENTISTRY EDUCATION

Consideration of Accreditation Standards for Advanced Education in General Dentistry and General Practice Residency Related to Patients with Special Needs (p. 200): On June 22, 2021, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) received a request from the American Dental Association's Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL) to consider revising the Accreditation Standards to require graduates to be competent in treating patients with special needs. The Council on Dental Education and Licensure's request is found in (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 200**).

At its Summer 2021 meeting, the Review Committee on Advanced Education in General Dentistry, General Practice Residency, Dental Anesthesiology, Oral Medicine, and Orofacial Pain (AGDOO RC) considered the request for proposed revision to the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Education in General Dentistry, General Practice Residency, Dental Anesthesiology, and Orofacial Pain submitted by the Council on Dental Education and Licensure. The AGDOO RC believed that the Accreditation Standards for each of the disciplines under its purview should be further studied to determine whether modification of existing Standards or development of new Standard(s) related to patients with special needs is warranted. At its August 5, 2021 meeting, the Commission agreed and directed the newly reconfigured Postdoctoral General Dentistry Review Committee, which would conduct its meeting in Winter 2022, to further study the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Advanced Education in General Dentistry and the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in General Practice Residency to determine whether modification of existing Standards or development of new Standard(s) related to patients with special needs is warranted with a report to the Commission at its Winter 2022 meeting.

At this meeting, the Postdoctoral General Dentistry Education Review Committee (PGD RC) further studied the request for proposed revision to the Accreditation Standards (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 200**) submitted by the CDEL and noted the request included strengthening the Standards by requiring graduates to be competent in treating patients with special needs. The PGD RC further noted that the Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) and General Practice Residency (GPR) Accreditation Standards currently address patients with special needs

through providing a definition, as well as through Standard 2-1 b, which requires graduates to be able to “assess, diagnose, and plan for the provision of multidisciplinary oral health care for a wide variety of patients including patients with special needs.” Through discussion, the PGD RC expressed concern that requiring graduates to be competent in treating patients with special needs would present a challenge to military-sponsored programs, whose patient population is primarily composed of healthy individuals. Further, the PGD RC expressed the same concern for educational programs housed in dental schools which may have limited access to patients with special needs due to other disciplines requiring experiences with patients with special needs. Following considerable discussion, the PGD RC concluded that since the AEGD and GPR Accreditation Standards currently address patients with special needs, modification of existing Standards or development of new Standard(s) related to patients with special needs is not warranted.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Advanced Education in General Dentistry and the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in General Practice Residency be retained without further modification related to patients with special needs.

Report on Advanced Dental Education in Advanced Education in General Dentistry and General Practice Residency Annual Survey Curriculum Section (p. 201): The Review Committee on Postdoctoral General Dentistry (PGD 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 2022. Additionally, the PGD RC noted that at its Summer 2020 meeting, the Commission approved revisions to the Annual Survey Curriculum Section for implementation in Fall 2022.

At this meeting, the PGD RC considered its discipline-specific Annual Survey Curriculum Sections (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 201**). Through discussion, the PGD RC noted that the questions on the Annual Survey Curriculum Section generally correlate to the Accreditation Standards. Additionally, the PGD RC noted that the Current Dental Terminology (CDT) codes will be reviewed and updated, as applicable, to reflect current codes, as has been the case with prior curriculum sections. Otherwise, the Annual Survey Curriculum Section should be retained with no changes for use in Fall 2022.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission direct the Advanced Education in General Dentistry and General Practice Residency Annual Survey Curriculum Section (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 201**) be retained with no changes for use in Fall 2022.

Informational Report on the Conduct of a Validity and Reliability Study for the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Advanced Education in General Dentistry and General Practice Residency (p. 202): The Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) and the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in General Practice Residency (GPR) were adopted by the Commission on Dental Accreditation at its August 3, 2018 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. 202**), 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.

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 weeks of receipt of the survey. A sample format of the survey is presented in **Appendix 2, Policy Report p. 202**. Following a period of follow-up with non-respondents, the data will be tabulated and analysis completed by June 1, 2022. Commission staff will prepare a report with results of the study for consideration by the Commission at its Summer 2022 meeting.

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

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
POSTDOCTORAL GENERAL DENTISTRY EDUCATION**

The Review Committee on Postdoctoral General Dentistry Education considered site visitor appointments for 2022-2023. 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. Miriam Robbins
Chair, Review Committee on Postdoctoral General Dentistry Education