

REPORT OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON ORAL MEDICINE EDUCATION TO THE COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION

Committee Chair: Dr. Scott DeRossi. Committee Members: Dr. Michael Brennan, Dr. Michael DeBellis, Ms. Jennifer Barber, and Dr. Thomas Sollecito. Guest (Open Session Only): Dr. Jeffery Stewart, senior vice president, Interprofessional and Global Collaboration and acting chief, Office of Learning and Interprofessional Collaboration, American Dental Education Association, attended the policy portion of the meeting. Staff Member: Ms. Peggy Soeldner, manager, Advanced Dental Education, CODA. The meeting of the Review Committee on Oral Medicine Education (OM RC) was held on January 11, 2022 via a virtual meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO ORAL MEDICINE EDUCATION

Consideration of Proposed Revision to Standard 3-1 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine (p. 1600): On May 4, 2021, the Commission on Dental Accreditation received correspondence from the faculty at the University of Rochester, Eastman Institute for Oral Health (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1600**) requesting a revision to Standard 3-1 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine. Oral Medicine Standard 3-1 states “The program must be administered by an appointed director who is full-time faculty and who is board certified in oral medicine.” The University requests that individuals with “equivalent educational qualifications in oral medicine” also be eligible to serve as program directors of CODA-accredited oral medicine programs.

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 Standard 3-1 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine. Through discussion, the AGDOO RC noted the rationale for the request included the desire to develop future oral medicine faculty and increase the number of oral medicine programs. However, through further discussion, the AGDOO RC expressed concern that the language “equivalent educational qualifications in oral medicine” could present challenges in verifying program director qualifications, especially if the applicant is internationally-trained. The AGDOO RC also discussed “educationally qualified,” language used in the Orofacial Pain Standards that could be used as alternative language, and believed this may be more appropriate but would require careful attention due to the potential complexities in determining whether an individual is “educationally qualified,” especially for internationally-trained faculty. Following lengthy discussion, the AGDOO RC concluded this request should be further studied, through referral to the newly formed Review Committee on Oral Medicine, which would conduct its first meeting in Winter 2022, to determine if revision to Standard 3-1 is warranted. At its August 5, 2021 meeting, the Commission agreed and directed the new Review Committee on Oral Medicine further study the request to revise Standard 3-1 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced

Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine, with a report for consideration by the Commission in Winter 2022.

At this meeting, the Oral Medicine Review Committee (OM RC) reviewed the request to revise Standard 3-1 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1600**) submitted by the faculty at the University of Rochester, Eastman Institute for Oral Health. The OM RC noted the rationale of the request to develop future oral medicine faculty and increase the number of oral medicine programs and agreed they are important to the discipline. However, like the AGDOO RC, the OM RC was concerned that the language “equivalent educational qualifications in oral medicine” suggested in the request, could present challenges in verifying program director qualifications, especially if the applicant is internationally-trained. The OM RC also discussed the alternative language of “educationally qualified” used in the Orofacial Pain Standards and noted Orofacial Pain defines this as “Board eligible in orofacial pain or successful completion of an orofacial pain program of at least two years in length.” The OM RC believed this may be more appropriate language, but could also present challenges in verifying program director qualifications. The OM RC also discussed whether this matter would be better suited for review by the oral medicine certifying board, related to the board certification process for internationally-trained dentists. As a result of considerable discussion, the OM RC determined that Standard 3-1 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine should not be revised at this time.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct that Standard 3-1 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine be retained without further modification.

Consideration of Proposed Revision to Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine Related to Patients With Special Needs (p. 1601):

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. 1601**).

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 submitted by the CDEL. The AGDOO RC noted that the request did not include review of the Oral Medicine Standards which do not address patients with special needs. The AGDOO RC recommended that the Accreditation Standards for each of the disciplines under its purview, including Oral Medicine, 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. Further, the AGDOO RC recommended that the new Review Committee on Oral Medicine,

which would conduct its first meeting in Winter 2022, further study its specific Accreditation Standards. At its August 5, 2021 meeting, the Commission agreed and directed the new Oral Medicine Review Committee further study the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine 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 Oral Medicine Review Committee (OM RC) considered the request for proposed revision of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine submitted by the CDEL and noted the request includes strengthening the Standards by requiring graduates to be competent in treating patients with special needs. Through discussion, the OM RC acknowledged that the Oral Medicine Standards do not currently address patients with special needs. However, the OM RC believed that because of the nature of the discipline of oral medicine, including treating patients with complex medical conditions, as well as the amount and type of advanced training educational programs provide, graduates are appropriately trained to treat patients with special needs. Therefore, the OM RC determined that 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 Oral Medicine be retained without further modification related to patients with special needs.

Report on Advanced Dental Education in Oral Medicine Annual Survey Curriculum

Section (p. 1602): The Review Committee on Oral Medicine (OM 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 OM 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 OM RC considered its discipline-specific Annual Survey Curriculum Section (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1602**). Through discussion, the OM RC noted that the questions on the Annual Survey Curriculum Section generally correlate to the Accreditation Standards and should be retained with no changes for use in Fall 2022.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct the Oral Medicine Annual Survey Curriculum Section (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1602**) be retained with no changes for use in Fall 2022.

**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 MEDICINE EDUCATION**

The Review Committee on Oral Medicine 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. Scott DeRossi
Chair, Review Committee on Oral Medicine Education