

REPORT OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON PROSTHODONTICS EDUCATION TO THE COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION

Committee Chair: Dr. Evanthia Anadioti. Committee Members: Dr. Linda Casser, Dr. Sang Lee, Dr. Dean Morton, Dr. David Felton, and Dr. Philip Rinaudo. Guests (Open Session Only, Virtual): Dr. Sheila Brear, chief learning officer, American Dental Education Association and Mr. Christopher Welber, executive director, American College of Prosthodontics, attended the policy portion of the meeting. Staff Members: Ms. Peggy Soeldner, manager, Advanced Dental Education; Ms. Yesenia Ruiz, manager, Advanced Dental Education; and Ms. Michele Kendall, senior project assistant, Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). The meeting of the Review Committee on Prosthodontics Education (PROS RC) was held on January 10, 2024 via a virtual meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO PROSTHODONTICS EDUCATION

Report on Prosthodontics Programs Annual Survey Curriculum Section (p. 1400): The Review Committee on Prosthodontics Education (PROS 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 PROS RC considered the discipline-specific Annual Survey Curriculum Section for prosthodontics programs, including maxillofacial prosthetics. (**Appendix 1 and 2, Policy Report p. 1400**).

At its Winter 2024 meeting, the PROS RC reviewed each question on the Annual Survey Curriculum Section and determined that the questions on the Curriculum Section for prosthodontics programs, including maxillofacial prosthetics were appropriate in relation to the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Prosthodontics. Therefore, the PROS RC recommended that the Curriculum Section for prosthodontics programs, including maxillofacial prosthetics, be retained with no changes.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct the Prosthodontics Annual Survey Curriculum Section for prosthodontics programs, including maxillofacial prosthetics (**Appendix 1 and 2, Policy Report p. 1400**) be retained with no changes for use in Fall 2024.

Consideration of Proposed Revisions to Improve Diversity in Dental and Dental Related Education Programs (p. 1401): 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. 1401**. 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 Prosthodontics Education (PROS RC) reviewed the letter from The National Coalition of Dentists for Health Equity. The PROS RC noted the short-term suggestion related to ensuring site visit teams are inclusive of educators who

represent diversity. The PROS RC agreed diversity on site visit teams is important but noted that identifying and maintaining a sufficient pool of qualified site visitors is currently a challenge. The PROS RC discussed the long-term suggestions related to student admissions and diversity and noted that most dental schools already have related policies in place that programs are required to follow and, therefore, it may not be necessary to also be included in the Prosthodontics Standards. Following discussion, the PROS RC determined further study for possible revision to Accreditation Standards may be warranted. Because there are common Standards among all advanced disciplines' Standards, the PROS RC believed further study should be coordinated with the other advanced disciplines to ensure consistency in revisions, if any are warranted. To that end, the PROS RC believed an Ad Hoc Committee of all advanced dental education Commissioners should be formed to further study the advanced dental education Standards for possible revision.

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 study the Accreditation Standards for possible revision related to the letter from The National Coalition of Dentists for Health Equity.

NEW BUSINESS

Qualifications for Maxillofacial Prosthetics Program Directors: The PROS RC learned there is uncertainty regarding the required qualifications for directors of a 12-month maxillofacial prosthetics program since there is no board certification for maxillofacial prosthetics. The PROS RC noted that the Prosthodontics Standards state: *"The program **must** be administered by one director who is board certified in the respective advanced dental education discipline of the program."* Since there is no board certification process for maxillofacial prosthetics only, it appears the intent of this requirement is that program directors must be board certified in Prosthodontics. The PROS RC also noted the Prosthodontics Standards do not require that directors of maxillofacial prosthetics programs be trained in maxillofacial prosthetics and discussed whether the addition of this requirement to the Standards may be warranted. Because of the challenges in identifying program directors, the PROS RC concluded training in maxillofacial prosthetics as a requirement for the program director could negatively impact program director recruitment and should not be added to the Standards at this time. The PROS RC discussed that a sufficient number of maxillofacial prosthetics faculty for didactic and clinical instruction, as well as supervision of students/residents is of utmost importance and believed that as long as maxillofacial prosthetics programs have sufficient maxillofacial prosthetics faculty, a qualification requirement of board certification and/or training in maxillofacial prosthetics specific for maxillofacial prosthetics program directors is not warranted at this time.

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
PROSTHODONTICS EDUCATION**

The Review Committee on Prosthodontics 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. Evanthia Anadioti
Chair, Review Committee on Prosthodontics Education