

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

Committee Chair: Dr. Scott DeRossi. Committee Members: Ms. Jennifer Barber, Dr. Michael DeBellis, Dr. Lina Mejia, and Dr. Thomas Sollecito. Guests (Open Session Only, Virtual): Dr. Sheila Brear, chief learning officer, American Dental Education Association, 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. Bridget Blackwood, senior project assistant, Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). The meeting of the Review Committee on Oral Medicine Education (OM RC) was held on January 9, 2024 via a virtual meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO ORAL MEDICINE EDUCATION

Report on Oral Medicine Programs Annual Survey Curriculum Section (p. 1600): The Review Committee on Oral Medicine Education (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 August/September 2024. The OM RC considered its discipline-specific Annual Survey Curriculum Section (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1600**).

At its Winter 2024 meeting, the OM RC reviewed each question on the Annual Survey Curriculum Section and determined that the questions on the Curriculum Section for oral medicine programs were appropriate in relation to the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine. Therefore, the OM RC recommended that the Curriculum Section for oral medicine programs be retained with no changes.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct the Oral Medicine Annual Survey Curriculum Section for oral medicine programs (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1600**) 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 Medicine (p. 1601): The Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Oral Medicine 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. 1601**), 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 Medicine will be initiated in the spring of 2024. Survey results will be considered at the Summer 2024 meetings of the Oral Medicine Education Review Committee (OM 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. 1601**. 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. 1602): 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. 1602**. 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 Medicine Education (OM RC) reviewed the letter from The National Coalition of Dentists for Health Equity including the short-term and long-term suggestions to CODA to improve diversity in all academic dental, allied dental, and advanced dental education programs.

The Committee discussed the short-term suggestions, including redefining the meaning and intent of diversity considering the recent Supreme Court decision. The OM RC also discussed the importance of diverse site visit teams, noting the current challenges faced in identifying qualified oral medicine site visitors.

Through discussion, the OM RC learned that an ad hoc committee is currently studying the predoctoral dental education Accreditation Standards for revision and believed the results of the work of this ad hoc committee could be beneficial when considering possible revision to Oral Medicine Standards.

Following discussion, the OM RC concluded that revisions to the Oral Medicine Standards may be warranted and believed it would be prudent to coordinate further study and possible revisions to the Accreditation Standards with other advanced dental education disciplines since many of the Standards are common across advanced disciplines. This would ensure consistency among all advanced disciplines. Therefore, the OM RC recommended that the Commission establish an Ad Hoc Committee of all advanced dental education Commissioners for this purpose.

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

Commission on Dental Accreditation Reciprocity with the Commission on Dental

Accreditation of Canada: The Review Committee on Oral Medicine Education (OM RC) discussed the process of establishing a reciprocal agreement with the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) for oral medicine education programs as is the case with some other advanced dental education disciplines under the Commission on Dental Accreditation's (CODA) purview. The OM RC understands that the development of an ad hoc committee of CODA, with representation from CDAC related to reciprocity for oral medicine programs has been directed and CODA representatives have been identified, but the committee has not yet met. Additionally, the OM RC learned the delay in meeting may be due to the fact that members representing CDAC have not been identified by CDAC. Therefore, the OM RC believed CODA should contact CDAC for an update on the identification of representatives to serve on the ad hoc committee and its continued interest in reviewing and potentially extending reciprocity to oral medicine education programs.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation contact the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada for an update on the identification of representatives to serve on the ad hoc committee and CDAC's continued interest in reviewing and potentially extending reciprocity to oral medicine education programs.

CODA Mega Issue Session for Professional Development: The chair of the Review Committee on Oral Medicine Education (OM RC) informed the OM RC that the Commission will have a professional development mega session on Wednesday, January 31, 2024 prior to the Commission's Winter 2024 meeting. The topic of the session is the "State of Dental Education," and each Commissioner will be given an opportunity to provide information and an update on

the discipline. Through discussion, the chair of the OM RC sought input on the topics that should be shared with the Commission, such as novel aspects of the discipline, current trends, etc.

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 ORAL MEDICINE EDUCATION

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