

General Dental Council monthly newsletter, 12 November 2007

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## LATEST NEWS

### 1 August 2008: introduction of CPD for DCPs

The GDC has set a date for the introduction of compulsory continuing professional development requirements for dental care professionals. From 1 August 2008, all dental care professionals will be required to complete and record 150 hours of continuing professional development every five years, a third of which should be verifiable (50 hours).

Dental care professionals will be required to complete CPD in the same core subjects as dentists:

- medical emergencies (10 hours per cycle)
- disinfection and decontamination (5 hours per cycle)
- radiography and radiation protection (5 hours per cycle)

Dental technicians should substitute radiography and radiation protection for materials and equipment (5 hours per cycle) as radiography is not within the dental technician curriculum.

In line with the dentists' CPD requirements, we recommend that DCPs involved in the care of patients should undertake CPD in legal and ethical issues and complaints handling.

Further information on compulsory CPD for DCPs is available on our [website](#).

### GDC explores registration options for overseas dental care professionals

The GDC has set up a new working group to look at how best to assess overseas DCPs' suitability for registration.

The Overseas DCPs Registration Working Group aims to establish assessments for clinical dental technicians, dental hygienists, dental nurses, dental technicians, dental therapists and orthodontic therapists who do not have a UK or recognised European qualification and who wish to apply for registration to work in the UK.

The members of the Working Group are:

- Mabel Slater (Chair, GDC DCP council member)
- David Murphy (GDC lay council member)
- Denis Toppin (GDC dentist council member)
- Gordon Miles (GDC executive)
- Amanda Little (GDC DCP policy leader)

The Group has issued a call for ideas to all categories of stakeholders. This will run throughout November, and is also available on our website. The views expressed in

this broad call for ideas will inform a focused consultation on options for routes to registration for overseas DCPs, at the beginning of 2008.

Updates on the key milestones of the Group will be available on our website [www.gdc-uk.org](http://www.gdc-uk.org). Your views on the call for ideas would be most welcome. In order to have a clearer picture of potential numbers, we would also like to hear from those overseas DCPs who may wish to be assessed for registration in the future. These DCPs should contact [overseasdcp@gdc-uk.org](mailto:overseasdcp@gdc-uk.org).

### **First CPD audit now completed**

The GDC has now completed the first audit of dentists' continuing professional development (CPD). A random selection of dentists who completed their first CPD cycle at the end of 2006 were asked to send in their CPD records for checking.

The audit found that over 20 per cent of verifiable CPD completed by dentists is in three core subjects recommended by the Council - medical emergencies; disinfection and decontamination; and radiography and radiation protection.

Although core subjects were not introduced until January 2007, dentists' records showed they were already incorporating these in their CPD activities.

The next five-year CPD cycle is due to end on 31 December 2007. Dentists in this cycle are those with a date of first registration:

- between 1 January 1980 and 31 December 1989,
- between 1 January 1990 and 31 December 2001 but not on the Register at 31 December 2001, or
- anytime in 2002.

We will be asking all dentists in this cycle to confirm the amount of CPD they have completed in the previous five years at the beginning of 2008. An audit of the CPD evidence declared will then take place later in the year.

Further information on CPD for dentists is available on our [website](#).

### **Chair of Overseas Registration Examination Board Appointed**

Professor Elizabeth Davenport has been appointed as Chair of a new GDC board to ensure the successful delivery of the Overseas Registration Examination (ORE). She will now help establish and lead the Overseas Registration Examination Board (OREB), playing a key role in recruiting members of the Board.

Professor Davenport was originally involved in the review of the International Qualifying Examination (IQE) and the implementation of the ORE. As Professor of Dental Education and Director of Quality with the Institute of Dentistry at Barts and The London Queen Mary's School of Medicine and Dentistry, she brings over 30 years of dentistry experience to the position.

The ORE began with the first sitting of the Part 1 and Supplementary Paper (for candidates transferring from Parts B and C of the IQE) on 10 and 11 September 2007, with 291 candidates taking the examination.

27 External Examiners have been appointed (subject to successful completion of training in December) to help run the ORE. The External Examiners' main role is to ensure that each sitting of the exam meets with the GDC's high standards. Two Chief External Examiners will be recruited, from the pool of External Examiners, to sit on the OREB with Professor Davenport, alongside a lay member and a dental educationalist member who the GDC is currently recruiting.

More information on the ORE and the recruitment of members of the OREB is available on the GDC's website [www.gdc-uk.org](http://www.gdc-uk.org).

### **GDC Registration Surgery a huge success at Dental Showcase**

This year's BDTA Dental Showcase was the busiest yet for the GDC, with an estimated 2,000 dental professionals and others visiting our stand between 18 and 20 October.

During these three days, a dedicated team of GDC staff was on hand at our 'Registration Surgery' to answer questions on dental care professional registration, provide the new simplified application forms, check applications and make sure they were completed correctly.

At the Registration Surgery, GDC staff checked around 150 application forms, and took 85 completed forms back to the office for processing. We also handed out approximately 1,575 application forms – 1,200 nurse applications and 375 dental technician applications.

We are now planning to take the Registration Surgery to future events attended by the GDC. Further information on these events is available on the website [www.gdc-uk.org](http://www.gdc-uk.org).

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **PCT open days**

Following the pilot event for primary care trusts (PCTs) from the London area on 16 March, a further two events have taken place this year. The final event for 2007 is taking place in mid-November.

All PCTs in England were invited to these events and feedback from the sessions has been very positive. Delegates received presentations on 'Registering Dentists' and Dental Care Professionals' (including information on the Overseas Registration Examination), 'Fitness to Practise Processes' and 'Revalidation'. We are hoping to hold similar events in 2008.

Further information is available on our website [www.gdc-ork.uk](http://www.gdc-ork.uk).

## FITNESS TO PRACTISE UPDATE

### Fitness to Practise Committees

At its meetings (now twice monthly) on 26 September 2007 and 9 October the [Investigating Committee](#) considered 67 cases concerning 64 registrants. The outcomes are detailed below:

Outcome	Number
No further action required	16
Referred to Professional Conduct Committee	2
Referred to Professional Conduct Committee and Interim Orders Committee	6
Letter of advice issued	22
Case adjourned - further information required	1
Warning letter issued (published)	14
Warning letter issued (unpublished)	4
Case withdrawn	1
Deferred	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>

At its meetings on 26 September 2007 and 9 October the [Preliminary Proceedings Committee](#) considered 7 cases concerning 7 registrants. The outcomes are detailed below:

Outcome	Number
Referred to Professional Conduct Committee	2
Inquiry cancelled - no further action required	3
Inquiry to continue – case adjourned for further information	1
Inquiry cancelled – letter of advice issued	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>

### Hearings

The cases heard by the [Professional Conduct Committee](#) between 19 September and 19 October 2007 were:

Name	Registration number	Type of case	Outcome
<b>ZHAND, Mahrok</b>	<b>72397</b>	Conduct (Initial)	<b>Serious professional misconduct: admonished</b>
<b>MERCHANT, Shabbir *</b>	<b>[65580]</b>	Restoration	<b>Not restored</b>
<b>BUTT, Omar Shaukat</b>	<b>77992</b>	Conduct (Initial)	<b>Serious professional misconduct: admonished</b>
<b>CARLESON, Joakim Anders</b>	<b>79961</b>	Conduct (Initial)	<b>Serious professional misconduct: suspended for 6 months with immediate suspension</b>
<b>REINHARDT, Luts Hans *</b>	<b>82644</b>	Conduct (Initial)	<b>Fitness to practise impaired: suspended for 9 months</b>

<b>PHOTAY, Parkash Singh</b>	<b>44764</b>	Conduct (Initial)	<b>Serious professional misconduct: admonished</b>
<b>RAJAN, Michael Sudak *</b>	<b>[66879]</b>	Restoration	<b>Not restored</b>
<b>BOYD, Andrew Weir *</b>	<b>61041</b>	Conduct: (Resumed after suspension)	<b>Suspension extended for further 12 months</b>
<b>BUGG, James Kimberley Saint John</b>	<b>58156</b>	Conduct (Initial)	<b>Judgment postponed</b> for a period ending 6 months from the day the current Interim Orders Committee suspension is lifted
<b>BABINSKI, Artur Cezary</b>	<b>84487</b>	Conduct (Initial)	<b>Not guilty of serious professional misconduct:</b> findings insufficient to support a finding of SPM
<b>SIMONS, Glen Michael *</b>	<b>[64916]</b>	Restoration	<b>Not restored</b>

\* These cases were heard under our new fitness to practise rules which came into force on 31 July 2006. All cases that were initiated before this date will be considered under the previous rules.

Former registration numbers of those erased from the Dentists Register are given in square brackets.

Further information on these PCC hearings is included in the attached document.

The cases heard by the [Interim Orders Committee](#) between 19 September and 19 October 2007 were:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Registration Number:</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>BAMGBELU, Abiodun Olayinka</b>	<b>69238</b>	<b>No interim order imposed</b>
<b>MOURA NEVES, Jose Pedro Coelho</b>	<b>106200</b>	<b>Interim suspension 18 months</b>
<b>COOKSEY, Clinton John</b>	<b>44187</b>	<b>Interim conditions 18 months</b>
<b>BAIN, Roderick Hay</b>	<b>46377</b>	<b>Interim conditions 18 months</b>
<b>BUGG, James Kimberley Saint John *</b>	<b>58156</b>	<b>Interim suspension 18 months</b>
<b>FAWEHINMI, Olawale Oludolapo</b>	<b>75732</b>	<b>Interim conditions for the remaining 6 months of original order</b>
<b>BAL, Amariqbal Singh</b>	<b>65625</b>	<b>Interim suspension for the remaining 6 months of original order</b>
<b>GIRDHAM, David Russell</b>	<b>52014</b>	<b>Interim suspension 18 months</b>

\* This Interim Order Committee hearing took place prior to Mr Bugg's Professional Conduct Committee hearing. However, the interim suspension remains in place.

The [Health Committee](#) sat between 1 and 4 October 2007 and heard five cases (all of which were resumed). Of these five cases, one was given conditions for two years, one given conditions for 6 months, one suspended for 12 months, one suspended for 6 months, and one suspended for 4 months (with immediate effect).

## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Dental Care Professionals Register

Since the opening of the Dental Care Professionals (DCP) Register in July 2006 we have received applications from and registered the following from the new DCP groups. The numbers in brackets indicate the cumulative totals. Applications from dental nurses and technicians are currently taking approximately 4 weeks to process.

#### New DCP groups – applications received since opening of register

	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07
Dental nurse	211	366 (577)	626 (1,203)	570 (1,773)	552 (2,325)	866 (3,191)	717 (3,908)	776 (4,684)	658 (5,342)
Dental technician	30	32 (62)	46 (108)	57 (165)	47 (212)	85 (297)	59 (356)	46 (402)	49 (451)
Clinical dental technician	0	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	10 (10)	7 (17)	5 (22)
<b>Total</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>398 (639)</b>	<b>672 (1,311)</b>	<b>627 (1,938)</b>	<b>599 (2,537)</b>	<b>951 (3,488)</b>	<b>786 (4,274)</b>	<b>829 (5,103)</b>	<b>712 (5,815)</b>

	May 07	Jun 07	Jul 07	Aug 07	Sep 07
Dental nurse	778 (6,120)	560 (6,680)	1,134 (7,814)	941 (8,755)	1,049 (9,804)
Dental technician	72 (523)	57 (580)	138 (718)	103 (821)	105 (926)
Clinical dental technician	6 (28)	8 (36)	2 (38)	6 (44)	1 (45)
<b>Total</b>	<b>856 (6,671)</b>	<b>625 (7,296)</b>	<b>1,274 (8,570)</b>	<b>1,050 (9,620)</b>	<b>1,155 (10,775)</b>

#### New DCP groups – numbers registered since opening of register

	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07
Dental nurse	17	117 (134)	170 (304)	224 (528)	240 (768)	400 (1,168)	571 (1,739)	722 (2,461)	786 (3,247)
Dental technician	8	16 (24)	20 (44)	20 (64)	17 (81)	46 (127)	49 (176)	64 (240)	65 (305)
Clinical dental technician	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	8 (8)	4 (12)
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>133 (158)</b>	<b>190 (348)</b>	<b>244 (592)</b>	<b>257 (849)</b>	<b>446 (1,295)</b>	<b>620 (1,915)</b>	<b>794 (2,709)</b>	<b>855 (3,564)</b>

### New DCP groups – numbers registered since opening of register

	May 07	Jun 07	Jul 07	Aug 07	Sep 07
Dental nurse	795 (4,042)	1,138 (5,180)	985 (6,165)	507 (6,672)	1,212 (7,884)
Dental technician	45 (350)	95 (445)	73 (518)	54 (572)	123 (695)
Clinical dental technician	7 (19)	7 (26)	4 (30)	10 (40)	3 (43)
<b>Total</b>	<b>847</b> <b>(4,411)</b>	<b>1,240</b> <b>(5,651)</b>	<b>1,062</b> <b>(6,713)</b>	<b>571</b> <b>(7,284)</b>	<b>1,338</b> <b>(8,622)</b>

### Other registrant applications

Since the beginning of 2007 we have received applications from and registered the following numbers from our other registrant groups, the numbers in brackets indicate the cumulative totals.

### Other registrant groups – applications received in 2007

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Dentist	136	90 (226)	130 (356)	163 (519)	148 (667)	514 (1,181)	309 (1,490)	113 (1,603)	130 (1,733)
Dentist – temporary registration	99	33 (132)	14 (146)	12 (158)	20 (178)	26 (204)	100 (304)	21 (325)	6 (331)
Dental hygienist	20	10 (30)	4 (34)	31 (65)	26 (91)	81 (172)	20 (192)	19 (211)	1 (212)
Dental therapist	9	3 (12)	2 (14)	25 (39)	12 (51)	52 (103)	14 (117)	4 (121)	0 (121)
Specialist list	17	15 (32)	13 (45)	1 (46)	8 (54)	8 (62)	2 (64)	6 (70)	30 (100)
<b>Total</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>151</b> <b>(432)</b>	<b>163</b> <b>(595)</b>	<b>232</b> <b>(827)</b>	<b>214</b> <b>(1,041)</b>	<b>681</b> <b>(1,722)</b>	<b>445</b> <b>(2,167)</b>	<b>163</b> <b>(2,330)</b>	<b>167</b> <b>(2,497)</b>

### Other registrant groups – number registered in 2007

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Dentist	124	90 (214)	84 (298)	132 (430)	144 (574)	215 (789)	561 (1,350)	166 (1,516)	131 (1,647)
Dentist – temporary registration	37	132 (169)	20 (189)	9 (198)	25 (223)	5 (228)	119 (347)	18 (365)	13 (378)
Dental hygienist	55	1 (56)	4 (60)	25 (85)	11 (96)	35 (131)	86 (217)	20 (237)	8 (245)
Dental therapist	50	0 (50)	0 (50)	6 (56)	3 (59)	17 (76)	56 (132)	0 (132)	2 (134)
Specialist list	16	11 (27)	12 (39)	15 (54)	12 (66)	10 (76)	15 (91)	7 (98)	5 (103)
<b>Total</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>234</b> <b>(516)</b>	<b>120</b> <b>(636)</b>	<b>187</b> <b>(823)</b>	<b>195</b> <b>(1,018)</b>	<b>282</b> <b>(1,300)</b>	<b>837</b> <b>(2,137)</b>	<b>211</b> <b>(2,348)</b>	<b>159</b> <b>(2,507)</b>

### Assessed applications – number registered in 2007

Since the beginning of 2007 we have registered the following additional dental professionals following an assessment of their eligibility for full registration in the UK. Dental professionals who are EEA nationals, or entitled to be treated as such, without a qualification recognised for full registration in the UK, may be entitled to apply for an assessment.

Category	Number
Dentists	39
Dental care professionals	24

### An update on the performance of the Dental Complaints Service

September saw the Dental Complaints Service (DCS) log 130 complaints. The average number of complaints logged since the launch of the DCS in May of last year continues to be just over 30 per week. Current status of complaints:

24 May 2006 – 5 October 2007	No. of complaints	Percentage (%)
Closed complaints	2,164	97.04%
Active complaints	66	2.96%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,230</b>	<b>100%</b>

We have held five further complaints panel meetings since last reporting; the total number held since the launch of the DCS is now 32: 16 in our first year, and the same number again since 15 May this year. In 19 of these meetings the panel decided there was a complaint to answer, and in twelve meetings they recommended no further action be taken in relation to the complaint; one meeting had to be adjourned. An update on the type and frequency of recommendations made by panels as a result of meetings is provided below. Panels can, and have, made more than one recommendation following a meeting.

Specific recommendations made concerning:	Frequency
Refund of fees	17
Complaints handling best practice	9
Issuing / discussing treatment plans and/or costs	5
Record keeping – detail / contemporaneous	4
Working with a third party present	2
Access to emergency care	2
Remedial treatment – financial contribution towards	1
Remedial treatment – work to be carried out	1

Complaints considered at panel meetings have involved a variety of treatments, and in four instances more than one treatment type. Crowns and bridges have featured most often – ten times; six meetings have involved complaints about dentures, four about tooth whitening, and complaints about fillings at a further four meetings. Six complaints were about general practice.

## PRESS RELEASES

- [Introduction of compulsory CPD for all dental care professionals](#) 17 October
- [Professor Elizabeth Davenport to Chair Overseas Registration Examination Board](#) 26 October

## KEY EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

Date	Event
7	Registration Committee
10-11	BADN Annual Conference
12	Fitness to Practise Policy Committee
13	Finance and HR Committee
14	External Relations Advisory Group
27	Scope of Practice Working Group
29	DGP/Dentist Education Groups