



Australian Dental Council report of an evaluation of the University of Melbourne's Doctor of Dental Surgery program

October 2018

Summary report

Program provider	University of Melbourne
Program/qualification name	Doctor of Dental Surgery
Program/qualification abbreviation	DDS
Program/qualification code	MC-DDENSUR
Head office address, including State	720 Swanston Street, Melbourne VIC 3010
Campus	Melbourne Dental School
Program length	4 Years
Registration division	Dentist
Registration specialty	NA
Qualification type	HE
Australian Qualifications Framework level	9
Accreditation standards version	Accreditation Standards for Dental Practitioner Programs (Approved Dec 2014)
Date of site evaluation	Paper based review
Date of ADC decision	12 December 2018
Type of accreditation	Major change
Accreditation start date	1 January 2017
Accreditation end date	31 December 2023

Background

The University of Melbourne's Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) program was last reviewed by the Australian Dental Council (ADC) in 2016, at which time the program was accredited for a period of seven years without conditions.

In May 2018, the Melbourne Dental School advised the ADC of a proposed major restructure of the DDS program, with the changes as proposed to be implemented from 2019. The ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee determined that the changes are a major change to an accredited program.

To ensure the program continues to meet the *ADC/Dental Council (New Zealand) (DC(NZ) Accreditation standards for dental practitioner programs* the ADC has determined a limited review be undertaken against Standard 3 – Program of study, Standard 4 – Student experience and Standard 5 – Assessment.

Overview of evaluation

A Site Evaluation Team (SET) conducted a paper based review based on the University of Melbourne's submission outlining the changes and associated appendices. Additional information was requested from the Melbourne Dental School following the SET's teleconference held on 20 September 2018.

The findings in this report are based on the SET's assessment of the material outlined above, the 2016, 2017 and 2018 annual reports submitted for the program and the *ADC Report of an evaluation of the University of Melbourne Doctor of Dental Surgery program May 2016*.

Key findings

The SET is satisfied that the changes to the DDS program to accommodate increased cohort sizes will enable students to develop the required professional competencies expected at the point of graduation. The re-organisation of content and extended academic year will enable all students to receive the allocated clinical hours and also enables the School to incorporate further opportunities for intra-professional practise.

The SET was advised of the consultation undertaken with students regarding the proposed changes and was satisfied that students were able to provide input into the process. The SET commends the School on the introduction of the Professional Behaviour Assessment, which will further enhance the School's ability to assess students development of professional competencies related to Domain 1 – Professionalism of the ADC *Professional competencies of the newly qualified dentist*.

The School will need to monitor the changes to be introduced to ensure they do not impact on the range of experiences available to students.

ADC accreditation decision

The ADC had determined that the major change to the University of Melbourne's Doctor of Dental Surgery program is accepted and that accreditation is continued until **31 December 2023**.

As a monitoring requirement, the School is asked to provide an update in its 2020 annual report on the range of clinical experiences and treatments provided by students as part of the program. In particular the School is asked to advise of any changes to the range of patients students treat as a result of the changes to program delivery.