



Australian Dental Council report of an evaluation of the University of Sydney's Graduate Diploma in Clinical Dentistry (Conscious Sedation & Pain Control) Program

May 2018

Summary report

Program provider	University of Sydney
Program/qualification name	Graduate Diploma in Clinical Dentistry (Conscious Sedation and Pain Control)
Program/qualification abbreviation	GradDipClinDent
Program/qualification code	GNCLDCSP1000
Head office address, including State	Sydney Dental School, 1 Mons Road, Westmead, NSW 2145
Campus	Westmead
Program length	2 years part time
Registration division	Endorsement – Conscious sedation
Registration specialty	NA
Qualification type	HE
Australian Qualifications Framework level	8
Accreditation standards version	Accreditation Standards for Dental Practitioner Programs (Approved Dec 2014)
Date of site evaluation	31 May 2018
Date of ADC decision	3 August 2018
Type of accreditation	Initial Accreditation
Accreditation start date	3 August 2018
Accreditation end date	31 December 2023

Background

The Graduate Diploma in Clinical Dentistry (Conscious Sedation and Pain Control) (GradDipClinDent) was established by the University of Sydney in 1992. This is the first time that the Australian Dental Council (ADC) has reviewed the program for the purpose of accreditation.

The GradDipClinDent program is approved by the Dental Board of Australia (DBA) until 31 December 2018. Registered dentists and/or dental specialists that complete the program may apply to the DBA for endorsement of their registration in the approved area of practice, conscious sedation.

Overview of evaluation

An ADC Site Evaluation Team (SET) conducted a site visit on 31 May 2018 to Westmead Centre for Oral Health. The SET also visited the Nepean Centre for Oral Health on 30 May 2018 to review the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (Oral Surgery) program, which is the subject of a separate report.

The SET reviewed the Sydney Dental School's 27 page self-review against Accreditation Standards, attached appendices and additional information requested following the SET's teleconferences of 9 April 2018.

During the visit the SET interviewed a range of individuals, including:

- The Acting Head of School and Dean
- The Course Co-ordinator
- Permanent and casual academic staff teaching into the program
- Clinical supervisors
- Clinical education officers (Postgraduate)
- The Director of Oral Health, Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD)
- Head of Department, Conscious Sedation Services Dental Clinical Support Services
- Current students
- A recent graduate
- Members of the Learning and Teaching Committee.

The SET toured the facilities at the Westmead Centre for Oral Health.

During the visit the SET was provided with additional information including copies of student log books, examples of assessments and the most up to date course guide.

Key findings

The evidence gathered by the SET confirms that that GradDipClinDent program has a strong focus on patient safety. Students are well supported in the clinical setting by experienced clinicians.

The evidence gathered confirms that students are provided with the opportunity to develop the required knowledge and skills to induce conscious sedation safely.

The assessments require students to demonstrate their understanding of the limitations and risks of the various techniques used, as well as their ability to select appropriate patients and demonstrate their ability to manage medical emergencies.

The SET was advised of the informal methods used to incorporate relevant external input into the program's design and delivery. The GradDipClinDent program would benefit from a more systematic method of incorporating external input into the design and management of the program. Recent changes made to the program demonstrate that the program is updated regularly.

ADC accreditation decision

The ADC has determined that the University of Sydney's Graduate Diploma in Clinical Dentistry (Conscious Sedation and Pain Control) program is accredited from **3 August 2018** until **31 December 2023**.