



香港牙醫管理委員會
THE DENTAL COUNCIL
OF
HONG KONG

貴處檔號 :
Your Ref.
本會檔號 :
Our Ref. DC 1/13/A III

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22 April 2026

Dear Dentists,

Letter to Registered Dentists

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an update on the progress and key developments in the implementation of the initiatives under the amended Dentists Registration Ordinance (“DRO”), specifically on:

- I. The Mandatory Continuing Professional Development Programme for Dentists
- II. The Registration of Dental Care Professionals in the class of Dental Hygienists

I. The Mandatory Continuing Professional Development Programme for Dentists

Under the amended DRO, the fulfilment of continuing professional development (“CPD”) requirements has become a pre-requisite for all dentists to obtain or renew their practising certificates. The Council is empowered to determine the CPD requirements pursuant to section 11A(2A) of the DRO for this purpose. The CPD requirements are applicable to registered dentists with full registration, limited registration and special registration.

CPD is an integral element of professionalism for healthcare professionals. The objectives of the Mandatory CPD Programme are to:

- (i) continuously update and strengthen the knowledge and skills of registered dentists in accordance with legal requirements and professional development;
- (ii) safeguard patient safety by ensuring practitioners remain informed about the latest advancements and best practices; and
- (iii) foster public confidence in the profession by upholding high standards of competency and ethical practice.

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Central Registration Office : 17/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong

電話 Tel. No.: (852) 2961 8655 圖文傳真 Fax No.: (852) 2891 7946

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Against the above background, the Council held a consultation session with stakeholders on 9 May 2025 to collect views on the arrangements for the Mandatory CPD Programme. Taking into account the feedback received in response to the Consultation Document on the Mandatory CPD Programme, the Council prepared the draft Guidelines on Mandatory CPD Programme for Registered Dentists (“**the Guidelines**”). To enhance stakeholders’ understanding of the Guidelines, an engagement meeting and operation meeting hosted by the Council Chairperson were held on 27 October 2025 and 9 March 2026 respectively. Following the discussions, the Guidelines were suitably revised. At its policy meetings held on 22 January 2026 and 9 April 2026, the Council endorsed the Guidelines and the appointment of the Programme Administrators, the Accreditation Panel and the Programme Providers.

Implementation Date

Taking into account the readiness and preparedness of the parties concerned, the Mandatory CPD Programme **will commence on 1 July 2026**. Dentists are reminded to note the following –

- The Mandatory CPD Programme will operate on a CPD cycle basis. Each CPD cycle is a period of 12 months from 1 July of each year to 30 June of the following year.
- During every CPD cycle, registered dentists must fulfill the Council’s CPD requirements by participating in approved CPD activities as a pre-requisite for the issuance or renewal of their annual practising certificates.
- The minimum requirement is 10 CPD points per cycle, of which not less than 3 points must be obtained from the core CPD activities.
- The Council has appointed 4 Programme Administrators, an Accreditation Panel and 23 Programme Providers; and the relevant lists can be found in the Guidelines.

Action Required

Under the Mandatory CPD Programme, **dentists must enrol with one CPD Programme Administrator appointed by the Council** at any one time. If you have not enrolled with a Programme Administrator, it is in your own interest to do so before the commencement of the first mandatory CPD cycle, i.e. **1 July 2026** to ensure a smooth start to the Mandatory CPD Programme. Please note that individual CPD Programme Administrators will have their own fee schedules for their services, and they will announce their enrolment procedures and relevant information. Please refer to **Annex A** for the list of the Council-appointed Programme Administrators and their contact details.

Please be advised that the Guidelines on Mandatory CPD Programme for Registered Dentists are now available on the Council’s website - <https://www.dchk.org.hk/en/cpd/index.html>. It is strongly recommended that you carefully read and familiarise yourself with the Guidelines and the latest list of Council-appointed Programme Providers available on the website by scanning the QR Code below.



Separately, the Department of Health is developing a new Continuing Professional Development Information System (“CPDIS”) to facilitate relevant stakeholders to perform their respective roles in the Mandatory CPD Programme. The CPDIS is scheduled for launch within 2026 and further details will be provided in due course.

II. The Registration of Dental Care Professionals in the class of Dental Hygienists

The amendments to the amended DRO, amongst others, include the introduction of a new statutory registration system for dental care professionals (“**DenCPs**”), which currently comprising dental hygienists and dental therapists. This registration system recognises DenCPs’ professional status while ensuring their service quality under a more formalised regulatory regime. In practice, dental hygienists and dental therapists will be required to register afresh under the new registration system and, in the future, renew their practising certificates annually.

Subject to the legislative arrangements, the registration system for **dental hygienists** (being a class of DenCPs) is **targeted to commence in the third quarter of 2026**. The Council will issue letters to all dental hygienists currently on the Roll nearer the time, notifying them of the new registration system, reminding them to update their correspondence addresses and inviting them to apply for registration.

Dentists should note that, upon the commencement of the relevant legal provisions of the DenCPs in the amended DRO, the scope of practice of a registered dental hygienist is prescribed in Part 1 of Schedule 3 of the Dentists Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 2024 (**Annex B**). A registered dental hygienist may practise dentistry but only to the extent that the service provided in the practice is one specified in column 3 of that Part.

In accordance with section 27 of the DRO, it is unlawful for dentists to allow another person, who is not a registered dental hygienist, to practise dentistry on any premises used by or under the control of the dentist.

Action Required

The Council appeals to all registered dentists to convey this important message to the dental hygienist(s) working in your practice, urging them to contact the Central Registration Office (“**CRO**”) and provide their updated correspondence address if it has changed. Please note that the invitation letters will be posted based on the correspondence addresses recorded in the Roll, some of which may have become invalid. Dental hygienists are advised to monitor the delivery of the letters from the Council. If they have not received the invitation letters by end of June 2026, they should contact the CRO as soon as possible and provide their updated contact details –

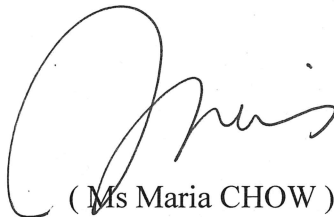
Central Registration Office (Dental)
17/F, Wu Chung House
213 Queen's Road East
Wanchai, Hong Kong
(Tel: 2961 8655 Fax: 2891 7946)
Email: cro9@dh.gov.hk

Ordinances and Guidelines

A courteous reminder is extended to all members of the dental profession that they should fully acquaint themselves with the provisions of the DRO and the Dentists (Registration and Disciplinary Procedure) Regulations governing their dental practice, as well as other relevant ordinances, such as the Private Healthcare Facilities Ordinance (Cap. 633) and the Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse Ordinance (Cap. 650). Dentists are also advised to read through and familiarise themselves with the latest version of the *Code of Professional Discipline for the Guidance of Dental Practitioners in Hong Kong* issued by the Council and available on the Council's website.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in upholding the highest standards of the dental profession.

Yours faithfully,



(Ms Maria CHOW)
Secretary

The Dental Council of Hong Kong

c.c. Consultant i/c Dental Services, Department of Health
Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, The University of Hong Kong
President, The College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong
President, The Hong Kong Dental Association

List of Mandatory CPD Programme Administrators*(as at April 2026)*

	Name of Organisation	Contact No.	Email	Website
1	The College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong	Tel: 2871 8732	cme_cpd@cdshk.org	https://www.cdshk.org/index.php
2	Hong Kong Dental Association	Tel: 2528 5327	cpd@hkda.org	https://www.hkda.org
3	Department of Health <i>(for dental officers of the Department of Health only)</i>	Tel: 2961 8970 Fax: 2573 6853	- (Enrollment by Fax only)	https://www.dh.gov.hk/
4	Faculty of Dentistry, the University of Hong Kong	Tel: 2859 0216 2859 0410 Fax: 2559 4194	cdep@hku.hk	https://geh.facdent.hku.hk/

**Extract of Schedule 3 of
the Dentists Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 2024**

Schedule 3

Matters relating to Dental Care Professionals

Part 1

Classes of Dental Care Professionals and Scope of Practice

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Class	Category	Service	Conditions
Dental hygienist	1	(a) The cleaning and polishing of those parts of the surface of the teeth of another person that are not covered by the gums	Nil
		(b) The application to the teeth of another person of any topical fluoride, fissure sealant, or other similar preventive agent	Nil
		(c) The taking of a radiograph intra-orally or extra-orally for the examination of the mouth, teeth or jaws of another person, or their associated structures	The condition set out in section 1 of Part 2 of this Schedule
		(d) The scaling of the teeth of another person (that is to say the removal of calculus deposits and stains from those parts of the surface of the teeth that are exposed or that are beneath the free margins of the gums, including the application of medicaments)	The conditions set out in sections 1 and 2 of Part 2 of this Schedule

Part 2

Conditions

1. Before the service is provided by the registered dental care professional concerned to another person (patient), a registered dentist or a person with provisional registration—
 - (a) has assessed the medical history of, and examined, the patient; and
 - (b) has, based on the assessment and examination, prescribed that the service is to be provided to the patient.
2. The service is provided on any premises by the registered dental care professional concerned in accordance with the directions of a registered dentist or a person with provisional registration who is present on the premises at all times when the service is provided.
3. Either—
 - (a) the patient is under the age of 18 years; or
 - (b) if the patient has attained the age of 18 years—
 - (i) the registered dental care professional concerned has completed a training programme recognized by the Council for the purposes of this section; or
 - (ii) a consultant dental surgeon appointed by the Director of Health for this purpose has certified that the registered dental care professional concerned is capable of providing the service on the ground that the registered dental care professional has acquired adequate relevant knowledge and experience, and is competent, in the provision of dental services.