

FIJI DENTAL COUNCIL

Policy on Continuing Professional Development

1. All practitioners applying for a practicing licence, or renewal of the annual licence, are required to produce evidence of satisfactory participation in appropriate programmes of continuing professional development (CPD) relevant to the practitioner's vocational category.
2. All dental practitioners [regardless of the cadre] are required to complete 10 hours of CPD activities annually.
3. Any excess CPD hours completed in a year cannot be carried forward in the following year.
4. Practitioners possessing a non-practicing registration or student registration are exempted from CPD requirements.
5. For any activity to be recognised as appropriate to CPD, it must be related to the scientific, clinical or technical aspects of oral health care. Non-scientific activities that are recognised are those that are indirectly related to and supportive of dental care.
6. Activities that may be considered appropriate to CPD in dentistry are, but are not limited to participating in:
 - a) workshops,
 - b) clinical seminars,
 - c) in-service courses (for government or institutional employed practitioners),
 - d) attending or delivering lectures
 - e) hands-on clinical training and
 - f) enrolment in a related post-graduate course at a recognised tertiary institution;All of the above must be verifiable.
7. Generally, all activities carry same value as CPD activity hours, but considerations may be given by the Dental Council on special request on allocation of hours for specific activities, namely preparation time prior to any delivery of lecture or course.
8. For any activity to be recognised as appropriate to CPD, prior submission of details to the Dental Council for vetting, including:
 - a) a description of the contents of the activity,
 - b) how it is related to dental practice,
 - c) credentials of the CPD convener or the CPD provider(s),
 - d) duration of the activity and
 - e) details of types of the participants anticipated is encouraged. This will eliminate any misunderstanding as far as recognition as appropriate by the Dental Council is concerned.

9. Organisations that may provide CPD activities in Fiji to Dental Practitioners are, but not limited to:
- a) Fiji Dental Association
 - b) Fiji National University
 - c) Fiji Oral Health Workers Association
 - d) Ministry Of Health
10. Any CPD activity attained abroad, that complies with (4) above in nature, and is sanctioned by or held under the auspices of FDI, or any organisation that is recognised by the Dental Regulatory Authorities in Australia, New Zealand, UK, EU, or North American Countries as appropriate to CPD, may be accepted as appropriate CPD activity. The Council at its discretion may make the appropriate decision on all other overseas based activities upon application.
11. Each practitioner who possesses a practicing licence is required to maintain a log book that records CPD activities, and this must be presented to the council, whenever required with evidence that what is recorded is legitimate (e.g. certificate of attendance, invoice for courses attended, etc.). The log book must record details of :
- a) Time;
 - b) Place;
 - c) Duration
 - d) type of activity &;
 - e) convener or CPD provider's endorsement.
12. Any dental practitioner, who has been absent from full time or part-time clinical practice, or has not practiced in Fiji for more than two years but less than 5 years, will be required to demonstrate twice the number of hours of CPD, as appropriate to the practitioners vocational category. This may be in addition to any other conditions the Dental Council may decide to impose, which may include some hands on training. This does not apply to anyone who has not practiced dentistry in Fiji for more than 5 years, where an appropriate council decision will be required.
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