



Royal College of  
Dental Surgeons of Ontario

*Ensuring Continued Trust*

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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TO: ALL RCDSO MEMBERS

## Council Highlights - Thursday, October 13, 2011

**This publication is e-mailed out to members and posted online on the College's website within two working days after each Council meeting. We welcome your feedback. If you have questions about any of these items, please contact RCDSO Registrar Irwin Fefergrad by phone at 416-934-5625, toll-free at 1-800-565-4591, or by e-mail at [ifefergrad@rcdso.org](mailto:ifefergrad@rcdso.org).**

### **Communicating Discipline Committee decisions to patients**

An ad hoc working group, composed of up to seven members selected from the Discipline Committee and the Ethics Committee, is to develop criteria and procedures to permit the Registrar to inform patients who are involved in a case where there is a finding of professional misconduct but where the patients were not a party to the proceedings. This would only be in situations where there is clear, cogent and convincing evidence that certain patients may have had dental care leading to an outcome that is below generally accepted standards of practice.

### **Infrastructure and process for use of dental CT scanners**

Council approved, in principle, bylaws and bylaw amendments that would set up a facility permit process to allow dentists to use CT scanners. Modelled after the facility permit system for the use of sedation and general anesthesia, members would register their education and training with the College and obtain a provisional permit. Then, they would pursue the various milestones set out in the Standard for Dental CT Scanners to begin operating a dental CT scanner in preparation for a facility inspection. Once members are found to be in full compliance with the Standard, they would be issued an annual facility permit. The cost of the initial application and inspection would be \$850. These proposed changes will be circulated to members and stakeholders for at least 60 days for comment.

### **Revised Guidelines on the Use of Sedation and General Anesthesia**

Council approved, in principle, the revisions to these Guidelines made in part to align our Guidelines with those of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario that cover the use of sedation and anesthesia by physicians in a non-hospital setting, like a dental office. The Guidelines were revised by a working group chaired by Dr. Dan Haas of the University of Toronto and approved by the Quality Assurance Committee. The revised version will be circulated to members and other stakeholders for at least 60 days for comment.

### **Fees for facility permit for sedation and general anesthesia**

In addition, Council voted to increase the fee for the initial application and inspection for a facility permit for sedation and general anesthesia to \$750 and \$350 for a renewal application. This increase will ensure that members using the permit process bear the actual costs associated with the program rather than general membership. These proposed by-law changes will be circulated to members and stakeholders for at least 60 days for comment.

### **Facility permits on the public register**

At the request of government, Council has agreed to add to the public register the names and addresses of all members' practice locations that are associated with current facility permits for sedation and anesthesia and for the installation and operation of dental CT scanners.

### **Responsibilities of dental faculties in post-graduate education**

At the request of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and of OHIP, the College Registrar was asked to prepare a document that addressed appropriate clinical supervision of dental residents in hospitals and set out requirements and expectations of supervisors and students. Working in consultation with the dean/director of the two dental schools in the province, who in turn had discussions with their department heads, and with OHIP, a new Practice Advisory called Post Graduate Education: Responsibilities of the Faculties was developed. It has now been approved unanimously by Council. This document is similar to one already in use in medicine.

### **New public member on Executive Committee**

K.S. Joseph was elected by Council to fill the public member vacancy created on Executive Committee with the resignation of Mohammed Brihmi on his appointment as a Justice of the Peace to the Ontario Court of Justice.

### **Blood borne pathogens initiative**

The College's initiative to develop guidelines for dentists on blood borne pathogens is now a full national initiative with the participation of the Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry. This nation-wide project is now being funded by the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation. The working group consists of Dr. David Wong, Clinical Director for Hepatology and Immuno-deficiency at Toronto General and Western Hospitals; Dr. Stephan Shafran, head of Infectious Diseases at the University of Alberta and Dr. David Mock, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto. Drs. Wong and Shafran were engaged by the Canadian Medical Protective Association last year to do a similar project for medicine.

**Notices to insurance companies**

Council unanimously agreed to discontinue providing notices to insurance companies to advise them of changes to the public register relating to members who have been revoked, suspended or have new terms, conditions and limitations on their registration certificate. Since June 2009, as required by law, this information is available from the College's website and is accurate in real time.

**Revised rules for alternate dispute resolution**

The Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee has reviewed the College's rules for the ADR process and its minor revisions have now been accepted by Council. There were no substantive changes.

**Professional Liability Program**

Council has approved the terms and conditions for the errors and omissions insurance coverage through ENCON Group Inc for 2012 and 2013.

**Election process review**

The Elections Committee presented a thorough report after a review of the questions and comments that arose from the December 2010 Council elections. From that report, Council passed several recommendations including a cooling-off period of two years for former staff members who wish to run for election, a moratorium on sending out e-mail blasts to constituents beginning two months immediately prior to the election date, and a requirement for candidates to be responsible for making any corrections to their nomination forms. The Legal and Legislation Committee will now prepare proposed amendments to By-law 6 for consideration at a subsequent Council meeting.