



Statement against interim competencies – oral surgery

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Statement

Who needs to complete this document?

This document needs to be completed by applicants for specialist registration in oral surgery. Oral Surgery is a recognised dental specialty in Australia¹.

The completed document and all supportive documents² need to be attached with the completed [specialist registration application form](#).

How will the Board use this document?

The Dental Board of Australia (the Board) will use the document to initially assess if an applicant is qualified for specialist registration in oral surgery in Australia.

The Board will then assess if the applicant is also eligible for registration.

To be eligible the applicant must meet the requirements of the Board's *Specialist Registration – Registration Standard* and other applicable registration standards.

Future work

The Board is currently undertaking a substantial body of work on dental specialty registration pathways. The project will primarily focus on:

- developing a list of competencies for each of the other dental specialties, and
- reviewing the process for assessing applications for specialist registration from overseas qualified practitioners.

As a result of this work, the format and content of this document will change.

Applicants should check the Board's website on a regular basis to ensure they are meeting current application requirements.

¹ Refer to the *List of specialties* published at www.dentalboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards.aspx

² Copies of documents should be provided. Documents not in the public domain must be certified. Refer to the [AHPRA website](#) for guidelines.

Assessment of qualifications

An applicant for specialist registration must be qualified for registration.

There is no approved program of study for oral surgery in Australia so there is no mechanism to assess equivalence of qualification to an approved program.

All applications for specialist registration in oral surgery will be assessed under section 58(c) of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law as in force in each state and territory (the National Law) to determine if they are qualified.

The National Law requires applicants under this section to:

- hold a qualification relevant to the specialty, and
- have successfully completed an examination or other assessment required by the National Board.

Qualification relevant to the specialty

The Board has decided that for a qualification to be relevant to the specialty, the qualification relied upon by the applicant must be:

- A qualification or training program in a single specialty discipline (in this case oral surgery) that:
 - has undergone an independent quality review/accreditation process, and
 - leads to registration in the specialty with an international dental regulatory authority.

Examination or other assessment

The Board has established the following interim competencies to assess if an applicant for oral surgery is qualified for specialist registration.

Applicants are required to make a statement against each of the competencies listed below and provide supporting evidence.

When making statements against the competencies, applicants are advised to draw on:

- the breadth and depth of the training in oral surgery
- what didactic content were contained in the training
- the amount of clinical training/experience
- the complexity of clinical cases undertaken in the training
- the nature of, and the logistics of the supervision arrangements, and
- amount of and complexity of research undertaken.

Supporting documents should include a logbook of cases undertaken in training and whilst practising as an oral surgeon, supporting evidence of curriculum and/or overview of the training program.

Many of these items will be provided at question 12 of the specialist registration application form. They do not need to be provided twice but should be referred to in the supporting evidence column.

Table 1 – Assessment against competencies

Management of health care delivery		
Key competency	Statement against competency	Supporting evidence
Evidence based practice, clinical guidelines and monitoring of outcomes.		
Medico-legal responsibility, jurisprudence and ethics.		

Research in Oral Surgery		
Key competency	Statement against competency	Supporting evidence
Critical appraisal of scientific literature		
Undertaking the development of a research proposal and a relevant literature review.		
Production of a research report suitable for publication in a peer reviewed scientific journal.		

Core clinical areas		
Key competency	Statement against competency	Supporting evidence
Management of impacted teeth and the complications thereof.		
Diagnosis, management and appropriate referral of dentofacial deformity and dentoalveolar surgery in relation to orthodontic treatment.		
Medical and surgical management of odontogenic and other oral infections.		
Medical and surgical management of maxillary sinus conditions.		
Clinical oral pathology including intraoral mucosal,		

benign soft and hard tissue lesions and salivary gland anomalies, their diagnosis, biopsy and management.		
Diagnosis, management and referral as necessary of premalignant and malignant lesions of the perioral and facial skin.		

Core clinical areas		
Key competency	Statement against competency	Supporting evidence
Management of the pre-prosthetic and prosthetic patient including intraoral implants, bone augmentation, non-vascularised grafting and other hard and soft tissue management.		
Pain and anxiety control including conscious sedation techniques.		
Management of adults and children in both the ambulatory care and hospital environment, including patients with medical co-morbidities and those requiring special care.		
Diagnosis and management and appropriate referral of soft and hard tissue dentoalveolar and maxillofacial trauma.		
Management of oro-facial pain and temporomandibular joint and associated disorders, to include arthrocentesis and arthroscopy.		
Diagnosis and appropriate referral of malignant disease presenting in the oral cavity.		
Management of patients having treatment for and after treatment for head and neck cancer and including conditions such as osteoradionecrosis and osteonecrosis of the jaws, to		

include patients requiring hyperbaric oxygen or other therapeutic modalities.		
Diagnosis, management and appropriate referral for the management of snoring and sleep disorders.		

Core clinical areas		
Key competency	Statement against competency	Supporting evidence
Use of surgical technology including, thermal, electrosurgical, photodynamic, harmonic and other methodologies.		
Pharmacology and therapeutics in the practice of Oral Surgery		

Reference

Interim Competencies for Oral Surgery approved by the Dental Board of Australia 21 June 2013.