



**THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

**DENTAL REGISTRATION ACT**

**(CHAPTER 76)**

**(Original Enactment: Act 24 of 1999)**

**REVISED EDITION 2009**

(31st July 2009)

*Prepared and Published by*

THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF  
THE REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS ACT (CHAPTER 275)

Informal Consolidation – version in force from 1/4/2022 to 15/8/2022

# Dental Registration Act

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An Act to establish the Singapore Dental Council, to provide for the registration of dentists and oral health therapists and for matters connected therewith.

[22/2007]

[15th October 1999]

## PART I PRELIMINARY

### Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Dental Registration Act.

[22/2007]

### Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“appropriate register” means any of the registers referred to in section 13(1), as appropriate;

“Board” means the Health Promotion Board established under the Health Promotion Board Act (Cap. 122B);

“certificate of registration” means a certificate of registration issued under section 16 or 21D;

“Chief Dental Officer” means the Chief Dental Officer of the Ministry of Health;

“Council” means the Singapore Dental Council established under section 3(1);

“Disciplinary Committee” means a Disciplinary Committee appointed under section 37;

“healthcare professional” includes a medical practitioner, a dentist, a nurse, a midwife, a pharmacist, a Traditional Chinese Medicine practitioner and any other person who is licensed to provide any other healthcare services in Singapore;

“Health Committee” means the Health Committee appointed under section 48;

“practice of dentistry” includes —

- (a) the performance of any procedure and the treatment of any disease, deficiency, deformity, malposition or lesion on or of the human teeth or jaws or associated structures, whether intraorally or extraorally;
- (b) the performance of radiographic work in connection with the human teeth or jaws or associated structures;
- (c) the administration of an anaesthetic agent in connection with any procedure on the human teeth or jaws or associated structures;
- (d) the performance of any procedure on, or the giving of any treatment, advice or attendance to, any person as preparatory to, or for the purpose of or for or in connection with, the fitting, inserting, fixing, constructing, repairing or renewing of dentures or dental appliances; and
- (e) the performance of any such procedure and the giving of any such treatment, advice or attendance as is usually performed or given by dentists;

“practising certificate” means a practising certificate granted under section 17 or 21E;

“President” means the President of the Singapore Dental Council;

“registered dentist” means a person who is registered as a dentist under this Act and includes a person deemed to be a registered dentist under section 64(1), and “registered as a dentist” and “registration as a dentist” have corresponding meanings;

“registered oral health therapist” means a person registered as an oral health therapist under section 21A;

“Registrar” means the Registrar of the Council;

“repealed Act” means the Dentists Act (Cap. 76, 1985 Ed.) repealed by this Act;

“Singapore degree” means a degree or diploma in dentistry from the University of Singapore or the National University of Singapore.

[5/2001; 22/2007]

## PART II

### SINGAPORE DENTAL COUNCIL

#### **Establishment of Singapore Dental Council**

**3.**—(1) There shall be established a body, to be known as the Singapore Dental Council, which shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal.

[22/2007]

(2) The Council shall consist of —

- (a) the Chief Dental Officer;
- (b) the Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry of the National University of Singapore;
- (c) 3 registered dentists, to be appointed by the Minister, whose names appear in the first division of the Register of Dentists and who are practising in Singapore;
- (d) one registered dentist, to be appointed by the Minister, whose name appears in the second division of the Register of Dentists and who is practising in Singapore;
- (e) at least one but not more than 3 registered oral health therapists, to be appointed by the Minister, whose names appear in the Register of Oral Health Therapists and who are practising in Singapore; and
- (f) 5 members to be elected by registered dentists whose names appear in the first division of the Register of Dentists and who are practising in Singapore.

[22/2007]

(3) *(Deleted by Act 22 of 2007)*

(4) Only registered dentists whose names appear in the first division of the Register of Dentists and who have at least 10 years’



experience in the practice of dentistry may be elected as members of the Council.

[22/2007]

(5) The members shall hold office for a term of 3 years and shall be eligible for reappointment or re-election.

(6) The Minister may, at any time, revoke the appointment of any member appointed under subsection (2)(c), (d) or (e) without assigning any reason.

[22/2007]

### **Functions of Council**

4. The functions of the Council are —

- (a) to approve or reject applications for registration as a dentist or an oral health therapist under this Act or to approve any such application subject to such conditions as it may think fit;
- (b) to issue certificates of registration and practising certificates to registered dentists and registered oral health therapists;
- (c) to make recommendations to the appropriate authorities on the courses of instructions and examinations leading to a degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery in the National University of Singapore;
- (d) to make recommendations to the appropriate authorities for the training and education of registered dentists and registered oral health therapists;
- (e) to determine and regulate the conduct and ethics of registered dentists and registered oral health therapists;
- (ea) to provide administrative services to other statutory boards responsible for the regulation of healthcare professionals; and
- (f) generally to do all such acts, matters and things as are necessary to be carried out, or which the Council is authorised to carry out, under this Act.

[22/2007]

**Compulsory voting**

5.—(1) Every fully registered dentist whose name appears in the first division of the Register of Dentists and who —

- (a) is resident in Singapore; and
- (b) has in force a practising certificate on the day of election of candidates as members of the Council referred to in section 3(2)(f),

shall vote for the election of such members at such time and in such manner as may be prescribed.

[22/2007]

(2) Where a fully registered dentist whose name appears in the first division of the Register of Dentists is required to vote for the election of the members of the Council under subsection (1) and fails to do so, he shall not be entitled to apply for a practising certificate unless he —

- (a) satisfies the Registrar that he had a good and sufficient reason for not voting at the election; or
- (b) pays to the Council a penalty as prescribed by the Council.

[22/2007]

**President of Council**

6.—(1) The Council shall have a President who shall be elected by the members of the Council from among its members.

(2) The President shall serve for a term not extending beyond the expiration of the term for which he has been appointed or elected to be a member of the Council, and shall be eligible for re-election.

**Disqualifications for membership of Council**

7. No person shall be a member of the Council if —

- (a) he is not a citizen or a permanent resident of Singapore;
- (b) he is not a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist;
- (c) he is an undischarged bankrupt;

- (d) he has been convicted in Singapore or elsewhere of any offence involving fraud or dishonesty, or implying a defect in character which makes him unfit for his profession;
- (e) he has been found guilty in Singapore or elsewhere of any improper act or conduct which brings disrepute to his profession;
- (f) he has been found guilty in Singapore or elsewhere of professional misconduct; or
- (g) his fitness to practise dentistry is judged by the Health Committee to be impaired by reason of his physical or mental condition.

[22/2007]

### **Filling of vacancies**

**8.—(1)** The office of a member of the Council shall become vacant if the member —

- (a) dies;
- (b) resigns his office;
- (c) is incapacitated by physical or mental illness;
- (d) becomes subject to any of the disqualifications specified in section 7;
- (e) without any good and sufficient reason, refuses to accept an appointment as a member of a Disciplinary Committee or the Health Committee; or
- (f) being a member appointed by the Minister under section 3(2)(c), (d) or (e), has his appointment revoked before the expiry of his term of office.

[22/2007]

(2) The Council may, with the approval of the Minister, remove from office any member of the Council who is absent without leave of the Council from 3 consecutive meetings of —

- (a) the Council; or
- (b) a Disciplinary Committee, or the Health Committee, of which he is a member.

(3) Any question as to whether a person has ceased to be a member of the Council shall be determined by the Minister whose decision shall be final.

(4) If any vacancy arises among the elected members, the Council shall, as soon as practicable, take the necessary action for the election of a person to fill the vacancy.

(5) If any vacancy arises among the appointed members, the Minister may appoint a person to fill the vacancy in the manner in which the appointment to the vacant office was made.

(5A) Any person elected or appointed to fill the vacancy shall hold office for the remainder of the term for which the vacating member was elected or appointed.

[22/2007]

(6) The Council may act notwithstanding any vacancy in the membership of the Council.

(7) No act done by or by the authority of the Council shall be invalid in consequence of any defect that is afterwards discovered in the appointment or election or qualification of the members or any of them.

### **Meetings and quorum of Council**

**9.—**(1) The Council shall meet at such times and places as the President may appoint.

(2) The Registrar may exercise the power of the President referred to in subsection (1) in the absence of the President and at the direction of at least 2 of the members of the Council.

(3) At any meeting of the Council, 5 members shall form a quorum.

[22/2007]

(4) The President shall preside at any meeting of the Council and, in his absence, such member as the members present may elect shall preside at that meeting.

(5) The member presiding at any meeting of the Council shall have an original vote and, in the case of an equality of votes, a casting vote.

**Appointment of executive secretary and other employees**

10. The Council may appoint an executive secretary and other employees on such terms as the Council may determine.

**Appointment of committees**

11.—(1) The Council may appoint one or more committees for any general or special purpose which, in the opinion of the Council, may be better dealt with or managed by a committee, and the Council may delegate to any committee so appointed, with or without restrictions or conditions as it thinks fit, any of the powers or functions which may be exercised or performed by the Council.

(2) The number and term of office of the members of a committee appointed under this section and the number of those members necessary to form a quorum shall be fixed by the Council.

(3) A committee appointed under this section may include persons who are not members of the Council.

(4) [*Deleted by Act 5 of 2018 wef 01/04/2018*]

(5) This section shall not apply in relation to a Complaints Committee, a Disciplinary Committee or the Health Committee.

**PART III****DENTAL REGISTERS***Division 1 — General***Registrar**

12.—(1) For the purposes of this Act, there shall be a Registrar of the Council.

[22/2007]

(1A) The Chief Dental Officer shall be the Registrar of the Council.

[22/2007]

(2) The Minister may appoint a person to act as Registrar during the absence from Singapore or incapacity from illness or otherwise of the Registrar.

**Registers**

**13.—(1)** In addition to duties under the Public Sector (Governance) Act 2018, the Registrar must maintain and keep the following registers:

- (a) a register to be called the “Register of Dentists” containing —
  - (i) in the first division of the register —
    - (A) under Part I, the names of persons registered as fully registered dentists under section 14(1) and (2);
    - (B) under Part II, the names of persons registered as dentists with conditional registration under section 14A(1); and
    - (C) all the particulars which are transferred to or entered in that division under section 40(6)(a) of the Dentists (Amendment) Act 2007 (Act 22 of 2007); and
  - (ii) in the second division of the register, all the names, addresses, qualifications and other particulars which are transferred to or entered in that division under section 40(6)(b) of the Dentists (Amendment) Act 2007;
- (b) a register to be called the “Register of Temporarily Registered Dentists” containing —
  - (i) the names of persons registered temporarily as dentists under section 14B(1); and
  - (ii) all the names, addresses, qualifications and other particulars which are transferred to or entered in the first division of the register under section 40(6)(c) of the Dentists (Amendment) Act 2007 (Act 22 of 2007);
- (c) a register to be called the “Register of Specialists” containing the names of persons registered as specialists under section 14C(1); and

- (d) a register to be called the “Register of Oral Health Therapists” containing —
- (i) under Part I, the names of persons registered as oral health therapists under section 21A(1); and
  - (ii) under Part II, the names of persons registered as oral health therapists under section 21A(2).

[22/2007]

[Act 5 of 2018 wef 01/04/2018]

(2) Each register shall contain —

- (a) the names and addresses of the persons registered;
- (b) the dates of the registration of the persons;
- (c) the qualifications by virtue of which the persons are so registered; and
- (d) such other particulars as the Council may determine for that register.

[22/2007]

(3) The Registrar shall —

- (a) be responsible for the maintenance and custody of the registers; and
- (b) publish on the Council’s Internet website a list of the names, addresses, qualifications and dates of qualification of all dentists and oral health therapists who —
  - (i) are registered under this Act; and
  - (ii) have in force practising certificates.

[22/2007]

(4) Every person whose name is entered in any of the registers shall inform the Registrar in writing of any change in his practice address or residential address within 28 days thereof, except that a person who makes a report of a change in his residential address under section 8 of the National Registration Act (Cap. 201) shall be deemed to have complied with this subsection on the date on which he makes the report.

[22/2007]

(5) The Registrar may disclose any information in the registers to any person prescribed by regulations made under this Act, if such disclosure is in accordance with such conditions as may be specified in those regulations.

[22/2007]

(6) Subsection (5) is without prejudice to any other right or duty to disclose the information under general or written law.

[22/2007]

(7) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (4) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

[22/2007]

### *Division 2 — Registration of Dentists*

#### **Full registration**

**14.—**(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, any person who holds a Singapore degree shall be entitled to be registered as a fully registered dentist.

[22/2007]

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a person, not being a Singapore degree holder, who holds such qualifications as may be recognised by the Council, and satisfies the Council that he has special knowledge and skill and sufficient experience in any particular branch of dentistry shall, if the Council thinks fit so to direct, be registered as a fully registered dentist.

[22/2007]

(3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), the Council may, if it is of the view that it is not in the public interest for a person referred to in either of those subsections to be registered as a fully registered dentist, direct that he be registered as a dentist with conditional registration in the Register of Dentists, and section 14A(3) to (7) shall apply accordingly.

[22/2007]



**Conditional registration**

**14A.—(1)** Subject to the provisions of this Act, any person who —

- (a) holds a degree from a university specified in the Schedule or any other degree which is, in the opinion of the Council, not lower in standing than a degree specified in that Schedule;
- (b) has been selected for employment in Singapore as a dentist in any hospital or other institution or dental practice approved by the Council; and
- (c) satisfies the Council that he has the knowledge and skill and has acquired the experience which is necessary for practice as a dentist,

shall, if the Council thinks fit so to direct, be registered as a dentist with conditional registration in the Register of Dentists.

[22/2007]

(2) The Council may require a person with a degree, other than a degree specified in the Schedule, to undergo and pass an examination conducted or arranged by the Council or by such other person as the Council may appoint to satisfy itself that the degree is not lower in standing than a degree specified in the Schedule.

[22/2007]

(3) The conditions of a person's registration under this section shall be specified in the direction by virtue of which he is registered.

[22/2007]

(4) Without prejudice to the power of the Council to impose conditions, the direction may specify —

- (a) that the person shall work for a specified period under the supervision of a fully registered dentist approved by the Council; and
- (b) the particular employment or the descriptions of employment for the purposes of which he is registered under this section.

[22/2007]

(5) The Council may cancel the conditional registration of a dentist if —

- (a) the dentist has contravened any condition specified in the direction by virtue of which he is registered; or
- (b) the Council is of the opinion, having regard to the report of the dentist supervising him, if any, that he is unable to perform the duties of a dentist satisfactorily.

[22/2007]

(6) A person who is or has been registered with conditional registration may, after the expiration of the period of supervision specified under subsection (4)(a), apply to the Council to be registered as a fully registered dentist.

[22/2007]

(7) If the Council thinks fit so to direct, having regard to the knowledge and skill shown and the experience acquired by the applicant, he shall be registered under section 14(1) as a fully registered dentist.

[22/2007]

(8) On a dentist with conditional registration becoming registered otherwise than conditionally or on his registration being cancelled under subsection (5), his name shall be removed from Part II of the Register of Dentists.

[22/2007]

### **Temporary registration**

**14B.**—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, any person who has a degree other than a Singapore degree and —

- (a) who is in Singapore for the purpose of teaching, research or postgraduate study in dentistry under such training scheme as may be approved by the Council for that purpose;
- (b) who possesses dental knowledge, experience and skill which the Council considers to be of international standing or are such as to have special value to the people of Singapore; or
- (c) who is not otherwise entitled to be registered as a dentist under this Act but who, in the opinion of the Council, possesses other qualifications which are adequate for the purposes of registration under this Act,

may be registered temporarily in such dental capacity and for such period as the Council may specify.

[22/2007]

(2) Any registration under subsection (1) shall be for a period not exceeding 3 years which may be renewed, at the discretion of the Council, for such further period as the Council thinks fit.

[22/2007]

(3) A person may be registered under subsection (1) subject to such conditions and restrictions as the Council may impose.

[22/2007]

### **Registration of specialists**

**14C.—**(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, any person who —

- (a) holds such postgraduate degrees or qualifications;
- (b) has gained such special knowledge of and skill and experience in any particular branch of dentistry; or
- (c) has both such postgraduate degrees or qualifications and experience,

as the Council may approve, may apply to the Council to be registered as a specialist in that branch of dentistry.

[22/2007]

(1A) A person may be registered under subsection (1) subject to such conditions or restrictions as the Council may impose.

[1/2010 wef 01/12/2010]

(2) The Council shall not register any person under subsection (1) as a specialist unless the person has obtained a certificate from the Dental Specialists Accreditation Board under section 32B.

[22/2007]

(3) The Council may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations for any or all of the following purposes:

- (a) providing for the registration of specialists in any branch of dentistry;
- (b) regulating the recording in, removal from and restoration to the Register of Specialists of the names, particulars and qualifications of persons so registered;

- (c) providing for appeals by dentists against any refusal of the Council to register them in the Register of Specialists or to restore their names to that Register or against any decision of the Council to remove their names from that Register;
- (d) prescribing the fees payable in respect of —
  - (i) any application for registration as a specialist;
  - (ii) any such registration as a specialist;
  - (iii) any restoration of names to the Register of Specialists; and
  - (iv) any appeal.

[22/2007]

### **Application for registration**

**15.**—(1) Every application for registration shall be made in such form, and shall be accompanied by such documents, photographs, particulars and fees, as may be prescribed by the Council.

(2) Before registering an applicant, the Council may require the applicant to submit himself to a medical examination by a medical practitioner approved by the Council to determine if the applicant is fit to practise dentistry.

(3) The medical examination shall be at the applicant's own expense.

(4) Subject to subsection (5), where a person has complied with subsection (1) and any requirement of the Council referred to in subsection (2), the Council shall register him as a dentist.

(5) The Council may refuse to register any applicant who, in the opinion of the Council —

- (a) is not a person entitled to be registered as a dentist in accordance with section 14, 14A or 14B;
- (b) is not of good reputation and character;
- (c) has had his registration as a dentist in any other country withdrawn, suspended or cancelled; or

(d) is unfit to practise dentistry by reason of his physical or mental condition.

[22/2007]

(6) Where the Council refuses to register an applicant, the Council shall by notice in writing inform the applicant of such refusal.

(7) Any person who is aggrieved by any refusal of the Council under subsection (5) may, within one month of the notice given under subsection (6), appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final.

(8) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Council may prescribe different fees for different classes of applicants.

### **Certificate of registration**

16. Where a person has been registered as a dentist, the Council shall issue to him a certificate of registration, and the Council may require that there be affixed to the certificate a photograph of that person or such other evidence of identity as the Council may direct.

### **Practising certificate**

17.—(1) Any registered dentist who desires to obtain a practising certificate shall apply to the Council in such form and manner as the Council may prescribe.

(2) The application shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

(3) A practising certificate shall be granted for a period not exceeding 2 years from the date of issue of the practising certificate.

(4) Any application for renewal of a practising certificate shall be made not later than one month before the expiration of the practising certificate and shall be made in such form as the Council may require.

(5) Any registered dentist who applies for a practising certificate later than one month before the expiration of the practising certificate shall be liable to pay to the Council such late application fee as may be prescribed by the Council.

(6) The Council may —

(a) refuse to grant a practising certificate to a registered dentist; or

- (b) refuse to renew the practising certificate of a registered dentist,

if the registered dentist has contravened any condition that is imposed by the Council with the approval of the Minister for the purposes of this section.

[22/2007]

(7) *(Deleted by Act 22 of 2007)*

(8) Where a registered dentist has had his name removed from the appropriate register or his registration suspended under any provision of this Act, any practising certificate issued to him shall be deemed to be cancelled and the registered dentist shall immediately surrender the certificate to the Council.

[22/2007]

(9) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (8) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

(10) For the purposes of subsection (5), the Council may prescribe different late application fees for applications made before, and applications made after, the expiration of the practising certificates.

### **Publication of list of registered dentists with practising certificates**

18. *[Repealed by Act 22 of 2007]*

### **Certificate of Registrar in relation to dentists**

19. A certificate purporting to be under the hand of the Registrar —

- (a) to the effect that at any time or during any period specified in the certificate any person was or was not a registered dentist, or had or did not have in force a practising certificate; or
- (b) as to any entry in the appropriate register, or the removal from the appropriate register of any entry,

shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary, and without further proof of the signature appended to the certificate, be sufficient evidence of the matters specified therein.

[22/2007]

### **Correction of appropriate register**

**20.—**(1) The Registrar shall —

- (a) insert in the appropriate register any alteration which may come to his knowledge in the name or address of any registered dentist;
- (b) correct any error in any entry in the appropriate register;
- (c) remove from the appropriate register the name of any person —
  - (i) whose name is ordered to be removed under any provision of this Act; or
  - (ii) who is deceased;
- (d) insert in the appropriate register any alteration in the qualifications or additional qualifications of a registered dentist; and
- (e) remove from the appropriate register the name of any person who has requested and shown sufficient reason for his name to be removed from that register, unless a complaint has been made, or an inquiry has, or investigations or proceedings have, commenced under Part V against that person.

[22/2007]

(2) The Registrar may remove from the appropriate register the name of any person who has not renewed his practising certificate for a continuous period of not less than 5 years.

[22/2007]

### **Removal of name from appropriate register**

**21.—**(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act, the Council may, upon such evidence as it may require, order the removal from

the appropriate register of the name of a registered dentist under any of the following circumstances:

- (a) if he has contravened any condition or restriction imposed by the Council as regards his conditional registration under section 14A;
- (b) if he has contravened any condition or restriction imposed by the Council as regards his temporary registration under section 14B;
- (c) if he, being a registered dentist whose name is in the Register of Specialists —
  - (i) has had his name removed from the first division of the Register of Dentists; or
  - (ii) has contravened any condition or restriction imposed by the Council under section 14C;
- (d) if he, being a person to whom section 32 applies, has contravened any regulation made under that section;
- (e) if he has obtained his registration fraudulently or by any incorrect statement;
- (f) if his degree for registration under this Act has been withdrawn or cancelled by the authority through which it was acquired or by which it was awarded;
- (g) if he has had his registration as a dentist in any other country withdrawn, suspended or cancelled by the authority which registered him;
- (h) if he has failed to serve the Government or such other body or organisation as directed by the Government for such period as may be specified in any undertaking given by him to the Government.

[22/2007]

(2) The Council shall, before exercising its powers under subsection (1), notify the registered dentist concerned of its intention to take such action and shall give the registered dentist an opportunity to submit reasons, within such period as the Council may determine, why his name should not be removed.



(3) Any person aggrieved by an order under subsection (1) may, within 30 days of being notified of the order, appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final.

*Division 3 — Registration of Oral Health Therapists*

**Persons entitled to be registered as oral health therapists**

**21A.—(1)** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the following persons may apply to the Council to be registered as an oral health therapist under Part I of the Register of Oral Health Therapists:

- (a) a person who —
  - (i) holds a diploma in dental hygiene and therapy from the Nanyang Polytechnic or any other certificate or diploma which, in the opinion of the Council, is of an equivalent standard and that has been awarded for successfully completing a course of dental training extending over a period of not less than 3 years; and
  - (ii) after being registered under Part II of the Register of Oral Health Therapists, has obtained at least 5 years of practical experience in the area of oral health therapy whilst under the supervision of a registered dentist whose name appears in the first division of the Register of Dentists; and
- (b) a person who —
  - (i) holds —
    - (A) a certificate of dental therapy from the Ministry of Health or the Board or any other certificate or diploma which, in the opinion of the Council, is of an equivalent standard and that has been awarded for successfully completing a course of dental training extending over a period of not less than 3 years; or
    - (B) a qualification in dental hygiene that is approved by the Council;

- (ii) has sat for and passed such examinations as may be prescribed by the Council; and
- (iii) after being registered under Part II of the Register of Oral Health Therapists, has obtained at least 5 years of practical experience in the area of oral health therapy whilst under the supervision of a registered dentist whose name appears in the first division of the Register of Dentists.

[22/2007]

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the following persons may apply to the Council to be registered as an oral health therapist under Part II of the Register of Oral Health Therapists:

- (a) a person who holds a diploma in dental hygiene and therapy from the Nanyang Polytechnic or any other certificate or diploma which, in the opinion of the Council, is of an equivalent standard and that has been awarded for successfully completing a course of dental training extending over a period of not less than 3 years;
- (b) a person who holds a certificate of dental therapy from the Ministry of Health or the Board or any other certificate or diploma which, in the opinion of the Council, is of an equivalent standard and that has been awarded for successfully completing a course of dental training extending over a period of not less than 3 years; and
- (c) a person who holds a qualification in dental hygiene that is approved by the Council.

[22/2007]

(3) The registration of any person referred to in subsection (1) or (2) may be subject to such conditions as the Council may determine.

[22/2007]

(4) It is a condition of the registration of any person referred to in subsection (2) that he may only practise dentistry under the supervision of a registered dentist whose name appears in the first division of the Register of Dentists.

[22/2007]

(5) The Council may require any person referred to in subsection (2) to undergo and pass such examinations as may be prescribed by the Council to satisfy the Council that he has the knowledge and skill and has acquired the experience which is necessary for practice as a registered oral health therapist.

[22/2007]

(6) Subsection (4) shall not apply to —

- (a) any person who is in the public service or who is an officer of the Board practising dentistry in the course of his duties in the public service or as an officer of the Board; and
- (b) such other person as the Minister may, by order published in the *Gazette*, specify.

[22/2007]

### **Application for registration as oral health therapist**

**21B.**—(1) Every application for registration as an oral health therapist shall be made in such form, and shall be accompanied by such document, photograph, particulars and fee, as may be prescribed by the Council.

[22/2007]

(2) Before registering an applicant, the Council may require the applicant to submit himself to a medical examination by a medical practitioner approved by the Council to determine if the applicant is fit to practise dentistry.

[22/2007]

(3) The medical examination shall be at the applicant's own expense.

[22/2007]

(4) Subject to subsection (5), where a person has complied with subsection (1) and any requirement of the Council referred to in subsection (2), the Council shall register him as an oral health therapist.

[22/2007]

(5) The Council may refuse to register any applicant who —

- (a) has had his registration as an oral health therapist in any other country withdrawn, suspended or cancelled; or

(b) in the opinion of the Council —

- (i) is not a person entitled to be registered as an oral health therapist under section 21A;
- (ii) is not of good reputation and character; or
- (iii) is unfit to practise dentistry by reason of his physical or mental condition.

[22/2007]

(6) Where the Council refuses to register an applicant, the Council shall by notice in writing inform the applicant of the refusal.

[22/2007]

(7) Any person who is aggrieved by any refusal of the Council under subsection (5) may, within one month of the notice given under subsection (6), appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final.

[22/2007]

(8) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Council may prescribe different fees for different classes of applicants.

[22/2007]

### **Oral Health Therapists Accreditation Committee**

**21C.—**(1) The Council shall appoint a committee of persons, to be known as the Oral Health Therapists Accreditation Committee —

- (a) to determine the qualifications, experience and other conditions for registration as oral health therapists under this Act;
- (b) to make recommendations to the appropriate authorities on the courses of instructions and examinations leading to any qualification as oral health therapists under section 21A(1) and (2);
- (c) to accredit the training programmes to be recognised for persons who intend to qualify for registration as oral health therapists under this Act; and
- (d) to recommend to the Council programmes for the continuing professional education of persons who are registered as oral health therapists under this Act.

[22/2007]

(2) The Oral Health Therapists Accreditation Committee shall consist of —

- (a) the chairman, who shall be the Chief Dental Officer;
- (b) one member of the academic staff of the dental hygiene and therapy course offered by the Nanyang Polytechnic;
- (c) not more than 2 dentists whose names appear in the first division of the Register of Dentists; and
- (d) not less than 3 and not more than 5 registered oral health therapists, one of whom shall be a member of the Council.

[22/2007]

(3) The members of the Oral Health Therapists Accreditation Committee referred to in subsection (2)(c) and (d) shall be appointed for a term not exceeding 3 years each but may from time to time be reappointed and may at any time be removed from office by the Council.

[22/2007]

(4) If any appointed member of the Oral Health Therapists Accreditation Committee dies, resigns or is removed from office, the vacancy so created shall as soon as practicable be filled in the manner in which the appointment to the vacant office was made; and every person so appointed shall hold office for the remainder of the term for which his predecessor was appointed.

[22/2007]

(5) The powers of the Oral Health Therapists Accreditation Committee shall not be affected by any vacancy in the membership thereof.

[22/2007]

(6) At any meeting of the Oral Health Therapists Accreditation Committee, 3 members shall form a quorum.

[22/2007]

(7) At any meeting of the Oral Health Therapists Accreditation Committee, the chairman shall preside and, in his absence, the members present shall elect one of their members to preside at the meeting.

[22/2007]

(8) If on any question to be determined by the Oral Health Therapists Accreditation Committee there is an equality of votes, the chairman or the member presiding at the meeting shall have a casting vote.

[22/2007]

(9) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Oral Health Therapists Accreditation Committee may determine its own procedure.

[22/2007]

### **Certificate of registration of oral health therapist**

**21D.** Where a person has been registered as an oral health therapist, the Council shall issue to him a certificate of registration, and the Council may require that there be affixed to the certificate a photograph of that person or such other evidence of identity as the Council may direct from time to time.

[22/2007]

### **Practising certificate of oral health therapist**

**21E.—(1)** Any registered oral health therapist who desires to obtain a practising certificate shall apply to the Council in such form and manner as the Council may prescribe.

[22/2007]

(2) The application shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

[22/2007]

(3) A practising certificate shall be granted for a period not exceeding 2 years from the date of issue of the practising certificate.

[22/2007]

(4) Any application for renewal of a practising certificate shall be made not later than one month before the expiration of the practising certificate and shall be made in such form as the Council may require.

[22/2007]

(5) Any registered oral health therapist who applies for a practising certificate later than one month before the expiration of the practising certificate shall be liable to pay to the Council such late application fee as may be prescribed by the Council.

[22/2007]

(6) The Council may —

- (a) refuse to grant a practising certificate to a registered oral health therapist; or
- (b) refuse to renew the practising certificate of a registered oral health therapist,

if the registered oral health therapist has contravened any condition that is imposed by the Council with the approval of the Minister for the purposes of this section.

[22/2007]

(7) Where a registered oral health therapist has had his name removed from the Register of Oral Health Therapists or his registration suspended under any provision of this Act, any practising certificate issued to him shall be deemed to be cancelled and the registered oral health therapist shall immediately surrender the certificate to the Council.

[22/2007]

(8) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (7) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

[22/2007]

(9) For the purposes of subsection (5), the Council may prescribe different late application fees for applications made before, and applications made after, the expiration of the practising certificates.

[22/2007]

### **Certificate of Registrar in relation to oral health therapists**

**21F.** A certificate purporting to be under the hand of the Registrar —

- (a) to the effect that at any time or during any period specified in the certificate any person was or was not a registered oral health therapist, or had or did not have in force a practising certificate; or
- (b) as to any entry in the Register of Oral Health Therapists, or the removal from that Register of any entry,

shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary, and without further proof of the signature appended to the certificate, be sufficient evidence of the matters specified therein.

[22/2007]

### **Correction of Register of Oral Health Therapists**

**21G.**—(1) The Registrar shall —

- (a) insert in the Register of Oral Health Therapists any alteration which may come to his knowledge in the name or address of any registered oral health therapist;
- (b) correct any error in any entry in the Register of Oral Health Therapists;
- (c) remove from the Register of Oral Health Therapists the name of any person —
  - (i) whose name is ordered to be removed under any provision of this Act; or
  - (ii) who is deceased;
- (d) insert in the Register of Oral Health Therapists any alteration in the qualifications or additional qualifications of a registered oral health therapist; and
- (e) remove from the Register of Oral Health Therapists the name of any person who has requested and shown sufficient reason for his name to be removed from that Register, unless a complaint has been made, or an inquiry has, or investigations or proceedings have, commenced under Part V against that person.

[22/2007]

(2) The Registrar may remove from the Register of Oral Health Therapists the name of any person who has not renewed his practising certificate for a continuous period of not less than 5 years.

[22/2007]

### **Removal of name from Register of Oral Health Therapists**

**21H.**—(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Part V, the Council may order the removal from the Register of Oral Health Therapists of



the name of a registered oral health therapist if it comes to the knowledge of the Council that the registered oral health therapist —

- (a) has contravened any condition or restriction to which his registration as an oral health therapist is subject;
- (b) has obtained his registration by a fraudulent or an incorrect statement;
- (c) has had his qualification for registration under this Act withdrawn or cancelled by the authority through which it was acquired or by which it was awarded; or
- (d) has had his registration as an oral health therapist in any other country withdrawn, suspended or cancelled by the authority which registered him.

[22/2007]

(2) The Council shall, before exercising its powers under subsection (1), notify the registered oral health therapist concerned of its intention to take such action and shall give the registered oral health therapist an opportunity to submit reasons, within such period as the Council may determine, why his name should not be removed.

[22/2007]

(3) Any person aggrieved by an order under subsection (1) may, within 30 days of being notified of the order, appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final.

[22/2007]

## PART IV

### PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY

#### **Prohibition of practice of dentistry**

**22.—**(1) Subject to sections 60 and 61, no person shall practise dentistry in Singapore unless he is a registered dentist and has in force a practising certificate.

[22/2007]

(1A) Subsection (1) shall not apply to any registered oral health therapist who has in force a practising certificate and who practises

dentistry in Singapore in accordance with the scope of practice prescribed under section 62.

[22/2007]

(2) Any person who acts in contravention of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

### **Liability of employer, etc., for practice of dentistry in contravention of section 22**

**23.**—(1) Where an offence is committed under section 22 by any person acting as an employee, an agent or a partner of another person, that other person shall also be guilty of an offence.

(2) It shall be a defence to a charge brought under subsection (1) if the defendant proves that the first-mentioned offence was committed without the defendant's knowledge and that the defendant took reasonable precautions and exercised due diligence to prevent the commission of that offence.

### **Liability of registered dentist or registered oral health therapist for allowing another to act in contravention of section 22, etc.**

**24.**—(1) A registered dentist or registered oral health therapist who allows a person to practise dentistry in contravention of section 22 on any premises used by or under the control of that registered dentist or registered oral health therapist shall be guilty of an offence.

[22/2007]

(2) A registered dentist or registered oral health therapist who, by his presence, countenance, advice, assistance or co-operation has knowingly enabled a person, whether described as an assistant or otherwise, to practise dentistry in contravention of section 22 shall be guilty of an offence.

[22/2007]

(3) In any proceedings for an offence under subsection (1) or (2), it shall be a defence for the defendant to prove that —

- (a) the commission of the offence was due to a mistake on his part or to reliance on information supplied to him or to the act of another person or some other cause beyond his control; and

(b) he took all reasonable precautions and exercised due diligence to prevent the commission of the offence.

(4) A registered dentist or registered oral health therapist who practises dentistry on any premises on which any person practises dentistry in contravention of section 22, knowing or having reason to believe that that person was practising dentistry on those premises in contravention of section 22, shall be guilty of an offence.

[22/2007]

### **Suspended persons not to practise dentistry during period of suspension**

25.—(1) Any person whose registration as a dentist or an oral health therapist under this Act has been suspended under section 40 or 49 shall not practise dentistry during the period of his suspension.

[22/2007]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

### **Pretending to be or taking or using the name or title of dentist, etc.**

26.—(1) No person other than a registered dentist who has in force a practising certificate shall take or use the title of dentist, dental surgeon, registered dentist, qualified dentist, doctor of dental surgery, professor of dentistry, surgeon dentist, any prescribed title under section 31(5) or any name, title, addition or description implying, whether in itself or in the circumstances in which it is used, that that person is qualified to heal or treat dental disorders or derangement, whether by dentistry or any other means of any kind or description whatsoever.

(1A) No person other than a registered oral health therapist who has in force a practising certificate shall take or use the title of oral health therapist or any name, title, addition or description implying, whether in itself or in the circumstances in which it is used, that that person is qualified to heal or treat dental disorders or derangement, whether by dentistry or any other means of any kind or description whatsoever.

[22/2007]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) or (1A) shall be guilty of an offence.

[22/2007]

### **Fraudulent registration, etc.**

27. Any person who —

- (a) procures or attempts to procure registration as a dentist or an oral health therapist under this Act, a certificate of registration or a practising certificate, by knowingly making or producing or causing to be made or produced any false or fraudulent declaration, certificate, application or representation, whether in writing or otherwise;
- (b) wilfully makes or causes to be made any false entry in the appropriate register;
- (c) forges or alters a certificate of registration or a practising certificate;
- (d) fraudulently or dishonestly uses as genuine a certificate of registration or a practising certificate which he knows or has reason to believe is forged or altered; or
- (e) buys, sells or fraudulently obtains a certificate of registration or a practising certificate,

shall be guilty of an offence.

[22/2007]

### **General penalty**

28. Any person who is guilty of an offence under section 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 or 27 shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$25,000 and, in the case of a second or subsequent conviction for an offence under any of those sections, to a fine not exceeding \$50,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

### **Recovery of fees**

29.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, no person shall be entitled to demand, claim, accept, receive, retain or sue for or recover any fee or charge in any court for the carrying out of any act within the practice of dentistry unless, at the time of carrying out the act, he

was registered as a dentist or an oral health therapist under this Act and had in force a practising certificate.

[22/2007]

(2) This section does not apply to any medical practitioner registered under the Medical Registration Act (Cap. 174).

### **Evidence of qualification and entry of additional qualifications**

**30.**—(1) No qualification shall be entered in an appropriate register unless the Registrar is satisfied by such evidence as he may consider proper that the person claiming the qualification is entitled thereto.

[22/2007]

(2) Every person registered under this Act, who obtains any qualification in addition to the qualification by virtue of which he has been registered, may apply to the Council to have that additional qualification inserted in the relevant register.

[22/2007]

(3) The Council shall have power to decide on the additional qualifications which may be entered in an appropriate register.

[22/2007]

### **Use of qualification and title**

**31.**—(1) A registered dentist or registered oral health therapist shall not use any qualification other than the qualifications which are entered in the Register of Dentists in respect of him, or which have been approved by the Council for his use.

[22/2007]

(2) A registered dentist whose name appears in the first division of the Register of Dentists shall not use any title, addition or designation other than —

(a) the title, addition or designation which has been approved by the Council for his use; or

(b) if his name has been entered in a list referred to in subsection (6) in respect of a title prescribed under subsection (5), the prescribed title.

[22/2007]

(3) A registered dentist whose name appears in the second division of the Register of Dentists shall not use any title, addition or

designation other than that of “registered dentist”, “dentist” or, if his name has been entered in a list referred to in subsection (6) in respect of a title prescribed under subsection (5), the prescribed title.

[22/2007]

(4) Any registered dentist or registered oral health therapist who contravenes subsection (1), (2) or (3) may be subject to disciplinary proceedings under Part V and for the purposes of that Part, such contravention shall be deemed to be an act which brings disrepute to the profession of a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist, as the case may be.

[22/2007]

(5) If the Council is of the opinion that any branch of dentistry has become so distinctive that it would be for the convenience of the public or of the dental profession that registered dentists qualified to practise, or practising, in that branch of dentistry should use a distinctive title, the Council may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations to prescribe appropriate titles and conditions under which they may be used.

(6) In the case of any prescribed title, regulations may provide —

(a) for a list to be kept by the Council of the names of registered dentists who are qualified under such regulations to use that title; and

(b) for any registered dentist who is so qualified to be entitled to have his name entered in the list.

(7) For the purposes of this section, “use”, in relation to any qualification, title, addition or designation, includes to exhibit or publish the qualification, title, addition or designation in any card, letter, stationery, nameplate, signboard, placard, circular, handbill or any notice displayed by the registered dentist concerned at any premises used by him for the practice of dentistry.

### **False assumption of title of specialist**

**31A.**—(1) A registered dentist who is not registered under section 14C as a specialist in a branch of dentistry shall not —

(a) practise dentistry or that branch of dentistry under the style or title of a specialist in that branch of dentistry, or under

any name, title, addition or description implying that he is such a specialist or has any degree, qualification or experience in that branch of dentistry; or

- (b) advertise or hold himself out as a specialist in that branch of dentistry.

[22/2007]

(2) A registered dentist who contravenes subsection (1) may be subject to disciplinary proceedings under this Act.

[22/2007]

### **Certain registered dentists not to perform prescribed procedures**

**32.**—(1) The Council may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations prohibiting a person to whom this section applies from performing such procedures within the practice of dentistry as are prescribed by those regulations.

(2) This section shall apply to any person deemed to be a registered dentist under section 64(1) on the ground that —

- (a) he is registered under the repealed Act immediately before 15th October 1999 by virtue of section 6(1)(e) of the repealed Act; or
- (b) he is the holder of a provisional certificate referred to in section 13 of the repealed Act which is in force immediately before 15th October 1999.

## PART IVA

### DENTAL SPECIALISTS ACCREDITATION BOARD

#### **Establishment of Dental Specialists Accreditation Board**

**32A.**—(1) There shall be a board to be known as the Dental Specialists Accreditation Board (referred to in this Part as the Accreditation Board) consisting of not less than 8 registered dentists to be appointed by the Minister.

[22/2007]

(2) The chairman of the Accreditation Board shall be appointed by the Minister from among its members.

[22/2007]

(3) The chairman and members of the Accreditation Board shall be appointed for a term not exceeding 3 years but may from time to time be reappointed and may at any time be removed from office by the Minister.

[22/2007]

(4) If any member of the Accreditation Board dies, resigns or is removed from office, the Minister may fill the vacancy by the appointment of a registered dentist and every person so appointed shall hold office for the remainder of the term for which the vacating member was appointed.

[22/2007]

(5) The powers of the Accreditation Board shall not be affected by any vacancy in the membership thereof.

[22/2007]

(6) At any meeting of the Accreditation Board, 3 members shall form a quorum.

[22/2007]

(7) At any meeting of the Accreditation Board, the chairman shall preside and, in his absence, the members present shall elect one of their members to preside at the meeting.

[22/2007]

(8) If on any question to be determined by the Accreditation Board there is an equality of votes, the chairman or the member presiding at the meeting shall have a casting vote.

[22/2007]

(9) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Accreditation Board may determine its own procedure.

[22/2007]

(10) The Accreditation Board may appoint one or more committees consisting of such members as it thinks fit to assist the Accreditation Board in carrying out its functions under this Act.

[22/2007]



**Functions of Accreditation Board**

**32B.**—(1) The functions of the Accreditation Board shall be —

- (a) to determine the qualifications, experience and other conditions for registration as specialists under this Act;
- (b) to define specialties in dentistry for the purposes of maintaining and keeping the Register of Specialists;
- (c) to accredit the training programmes to be recognised for persons who intend to qualify for registration as specialists under this Act;
- (d) to certify persons who have the qualifications and experience and satisfy the other conditions for registration as specialists under this Act;
- (e) to recommend to the Council programmes for the continuing professional education of persons who are registered as specialists under this Act; and
- (f) to advise the Council on matters affecting or connected with the registration of specialists under this Act.

[22/2007]

(2) Any person who desires to be certified as a specialist may apply to the Accreditation Board.

[22/2007]

(3) Any person who is aggrieved by the refusal of the Accreditation Board to grant him a certificate as a specialist may, within one month of the notice of the refusal, appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final.

[22/2007]

## PART V

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AND HEALTH COMMITTEE  
INQUIRIES*Division 1 — Complaints Committee***Appointment of Complaints Panel**

**33.**—(1) For the purpose of enabling Complaints Committees and Disciplinary Committees to be constituted in accordance with this Part, the Council shall appoint a panel (referred to in this Act as the Complaints Panel) consisting of —

- (a) not less than 5 members of the Council;
- (b) not less than 10 registered dentists of at least 10 years' standing who are not members of the Council;
- (c) not less than 5 registered oral health therapists who have at least 10 years of practical experience in the area of oral health therapy and who are not members of the Council; and
- (d) not less than 5 lay persons nominated by the Minister.

[22/2007]

(2) The term of office of a member of the Complaints Panel referred to in subsection (1)(a) shall expire at the end of his term of office as member of the Council, and a member of the Complaints Panel referred to in subsection (1)(b), (c) or (d) shall be appointed for a term of 2 years; and any member shall be eligible for reappointment.

[22/2007]

(3) The Council may at any time remove from office any member of the Complaints Panel or fill any vacancy in its membership.

[22/2007]

(4) The Council shall appoint a member of the Complaints Panel who is a member of the Council to be the chairman of the Complaints Panel.

[22/2007]

## **Complaints against registered dentists and registered oral health therapists**

### **34.—(1) Any —**

- (a) complaint of the conduct of a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist in his professional capacity or of his improper act or conduct which brings disrepute to his profession;
- (b) information on the conviction of a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist of any offence implying a defect in character which makes him unfit for his profession; or
- (c) information touching upon the physical or mental fitness to practise of a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist,

shall be made or given to the Council which shall refer the complaint or information, other than a complaint or information touching on the matters referred to in section 21 or 21H, to the chairman of the Complaints Panel.

*[22/2007]*

(2) The Council may, on its own motion, refer any information on the conviction of a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist of any offence implying a defect in character which makes him unfit for his profession to the chairman of the Complaints Panel.

*[22/2007]*

(3) Where a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist has contravened section 31 or 31A, or has been convicted in Singapore or elsewhere of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty, the Council shall, notwithstanding subsection (1) or (2), immediately refer the matter to a Disciplinary Committee under section 37.

*[22/2007]*

(4) Every complaint made or information given shall be in writing and shall be supported by such statutory declaration as the Council may require except that no statutory declaration shall be required if the complaint or information is made or given by any public officer.

*[22/2007]*

(5) The chairman of the Complaints Panel may from time to time appoint one or more committees (to be known for the purposes of this Act as Complaints Committees) consisting of —

- (a) a chairman, being a member of the Complaints Panel who is a member of the Council;
- (b) 2 members of the Complaints Panel comprising 2 registered dentists or one registered dentist and one registered oral health therapist; and
- (c) a member of the Complaints Panel who is a lay person,

which shall inquire into any complaint or information mentioned in subsection (1) or (2).

[22/2007]

(6) A Complaints Committee shall be appointed in connection with one or more matters or for such fixed period of time as the chairman of the Complaints Panel may think fit.

[22/2007]

(7) Where any complaint or information mentioned in subsection (1)(a) or (b) or (2) is referred to the chairman of the Complaints Panel, the chairman of the Complaints Panel shall lay the complaint or information before a Complaints Committee.

[22/2007]

(8) Where any complaint or information mentioned in subsection (1)(c) is referred to the chairman of the Complaints Panel, the chairman of the Complaints Panel shall —

- (a) if he is satisfied, based on any information given in support of the complaint or information, that a formal inquiry is necessary to determine the physical or mental fitness of the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist to practise, refer the complaint or information to the Health Committee; or
- (b) in any other case, lay the complaint or information before a Complaints Committee.

[22/2007]

(9) The chairman of the Complaints Panel may at any time revoke the appointment of any Complaints Committee or may remove any

member of a Complaints Committee or fill any vacancy in a Complaints Committee.

[22/2007]

(10) No act done by or under the authority of a Complaints Committee shall be invalid in consequence of any defect that is subsequently discovered in the appointment or qualification of the members or any of them.

[22/2007]

(11) All the members of a Complaints Committee shall be present to constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Complaints Committee and any resolution or decision in writing signed by all the members of a Complaints Committee shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been made or reached at a meeting of the Complaints Committee where all its members were present.

[22/2007]

(12) A Complaints Committee may meet for the purposes of its inquiry, adjourn and otherwise regulate the conduct of its inquiry as the members may think fit.

[22/2007]

(13) The chairman of a Complaints Committee may at any time summon a meeting of the Complaints Committee.

[22/2007]

(14) All members of a Complaints Committee present at any meeting thereof shall vote on any question arising at the meeting and such question shall be determined by a majority of votes and, in the case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a casting vote.

[22/2007]

(15) A member of a Complaints Committee shall, notwithstanding that he has ceased to be a member of the Complaints Panel on the expiry of his term of office, be deemed to be a member of the Complaints Panel until such time as the Complaints Committee has completed its work.

[22/2007]

### **Inquiry by Complaints Committee**

**35.—**(1) A Complaints Committee shall inquire into any complaint or information, or any information or evidence referred to in

subsection (9), and complete its preliminary inquiry not later than 3 months from —

- (a) the date the complaint or information is laid before the Complaints Committee; or
  - (b) the date the information or evidence referred to in subsection (9) is received by the Complaints Committee,
- as the case may be.

[22/2007]

(2) Where a Complaints Committee is of the opinion that it will not be able to complete its preliminary inquiry within the period specified in subsection (1) due to the complexity of the matter or serious difficulties encountered by the Complaints Committee in conducting its preliminary inquiry, the Complaints Committee may apply in writing to the chairman of the Complaints Panel for an extension of time to complete its inquiry and the chairman of the Complaints Panel may grant such extension of time to the Complaints Committee as he thinks fit.

[22/2007]

(3) For the purposes of any inquiry, a Complaints Committee may —

- (a) call upon or appoint any person it considers necessary to assist it in its investigations and deliberations;
- (b) require the production of any book, document, paper or other record which may be related to or be connected with the subject-matter of the inquiry for inspection by the Complaints Committee or the person appointed under paragraph (a) and for making copies thereof; and
- (c) require the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned to give all information in relation to any such book, document, paper or other record which may be reasonably required by the Complaints Committee or by the person so appointed.

[22/2007]

(4) Any registered dentist, registered oral health therapist or any other person who, without lawful excuse —

- (a) refuses or fails to produce to a Complaints Committee or to any person to whom the Complaints Committee may appoint for the purpose of the inquiry any book, document, paper or other record referred to in subsection (3); or
- (b) fails to give any such information relating thereto,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both and, in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$50 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction.

[22/2007]

(5) All such information, including such book, document, paper or other record used by the Complaints Committee in the course of its deliberations, shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person including the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist unless the Complaints Committee in its discretion thinks otherwise.

[22/2007]

(6) The Complaints Committee may, at any time before it makes its findings, seek such legal advice as it thinks necessary.

[22/2007]

(7) Where a Complaints Committee is of the opinion that a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist should be called upon to answer any allegation made against him, the Complaints Committee shall post or deliver to that registered dentist or registered oral health therapist —

- (a) copies of any complaint or information and of any statutory declaration or affidavit that have been made in support of the complaint or information; and
- (b) a notice inviting that registered dentist or registered oral health therapist to give to the Complaints Committee, within such period (not being less than 21 days) as may be specified in the notice, any written explanation he may wish to offer.

[22/2007]

(8) The registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned shall not have the right to be heard by the Complaints Committee, whether in person or by counsel, unless the Complaints Committee in its absolute discretion otherwise allows.

[22/2007]

(9) Where, in the course of its inquiry, a Complaints Committee receives information touching on or evidence of the conduct or physical or mental fitness of the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned which may give rise to proceedings under this Part, the Complaints Committee may, after giving notice to him, decide on its own motion to inquire into that matter.

[22/2007]

(10) Where the complainant withdraws his complaint before —

- (a) it is referred to a Complaints Committee or the Health Committee under this Part; or
- (b) the conclusion of the inquiry of a Complaints Committee or Disciplinary Committee before which it is laid, or of the Health Committee,

the Council may, notwithstanding such withdrawal, direct that an inquiry be conducted into the complaint or the inquiry into the complaint be continued, and the chairman of the Complaints Panel, the Complaints Committee, the Disciplinary Committee or the Health Committee, as the case may be, shall comply with such direction as if the complaint had been made by the Council.

[22/2007]

(11) Any member of the Council who is employed in the Ministry of Health shall not be disqualified from being a member of a Complaints Committee or Disciplinary Committee or the Health Committee by reason only that he or the complainant is so employed.

[22/2007]

### **Findings of Complaints Committee**

**36.**—(1) Upon due inquiry into the complaint or information, or any information or evidence referred to in section 35(9), a Complaints Committee shall —



- (a) if it is of the view that no formal inquiry is necessary —
  - (i) order that the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist be issued with a letter of advice;
  - (ii) order that the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist be warned;
  - (iii) order that the complaint or matter be dismissed; or
  - (iv) make such other order as it thinks fit; or
- (b) if it is of the view that a formal inquiry is necessary —
  - (i) order that an inquiry be held by the Health Committee; or
  - (ii) order that an inquiry be held by a Disciplinary Committee.

[22/2007]

(2) Where a Complaints Committee determines that a formal inquiry is necessary, it shall order that the inquiry be held by the Health Committee if the complaint, information or evidence touches upon the physical or mental fitness of the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist to practise.

[22/2007]

(3) Where a Complaints Committee has made an order for a formal inquiry to be held by a Disciplinary Committee, the Council shall immediately appoint a Disciplinary Committee which shall hear and investigate the complaint or matter.

[22/2007]

(4) Where a Complaints Committee has ordered that a letter of advice be issued, the chairman of the Complaints Committee shall issue a letter of advice in such terms as it thinks fit.

[22/2007]

(5) A Complaints Committee shall notify the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned and the person who made the complaint or gave the information under section 34(1) of its decision under subsection (1) and, if it makes an order under subsection (1)(a), the reason for making the order.

[22/2007]

(6) Any registered dentist or registered oral health therapist who is aggrieved by any order of a Complaints Committee under subsection (1)(a) may, within 30 days of being notified of the determination of the Complaints Committee, appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final.

[22/2007]

(7) Where the person who has made the complaint or given the information to the Council is dissatisfied with any order of a Complaints Committee under subsection (1)(a), he may, within 30 days of being notified of the determination of the Complaints Committee, appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final.

[22/2007]

(8) The Minister may make —

- (a) an order affirming the determination of a Complaints Committee;
- (b) an order directing the Council to immediately appoint a Disciplinary Committee to hear and investigate the complaint or matter;
- (c) an order directing that an inquiry into the matter be held by the Health Committee; or
- (d) such other order as he thinks fit.

[22/2007]

(9) Every Complaints Committee shall immediately report to the Council its findings and the order or orders made.

[22/2007]

### **Appointment of Disciplinary Committee**

**37.—(1)** The President may, from time to time, appoint one or more committees consisting of —

- (a) a chairman from a panel, to be appointed by the Minister, comprising fully registered dentists whose names appear in the first division of the Register of Dentists and who have had not less than 20 years' experience in the practice of dentistry;
- (b) not less than one member of the Council;

- (c) not less than one member of the Complaints Panel, not being a member of the Council; and
- (d) an observer who is a lay person,

to be known as Disciplinary Committees, to inquire into —

- (i) any complaint or matter in respect of which the Minister or a Complaints Committee has under section 36 ordered that an inquiry be held by a Disciplinary Committee; or
- (ii) any matter referred to it under section 34(3).

[22/2007]

(2) A member of a Complaints Committee inquiring into any matter concerning a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist shall not be a member of a Disciplinary Committee inquiring into the same matter.

[22/2007]

(3) The member of a Disciplinary Committee who is an observer shall not vote on any question or matter to be decided by the Disciplinary Committee and need not be present at every meeting of the Disciplinary Committee.

[22/2007]

(4) A Disciplinary Committee may be appointed in connection with one or more matters or for a fixed period of time as the Council may think fit.

[22/2007]

(5) The Council may at any time revoke the appointment of any Disciplinary Committee or may remove any member of a Disciplinary Committee or fill any vacancy in a Disciplinary Committee.

[22/2007]

(6) No act done by or under the authority of a Disciplinary Committee shall be invalid in consequence of any defect that is subsequently discovered in the appointment or qualification of the members or any of them.

[22/2007]

- (7) Except as provided by subsection (3) —
- (a) all members of a Disciplinary Committee shall be personally present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business; and
  - (b) all members of a Disciplinary Committee present at any meeting thereof shall vote on any question arising at the meeting and such question shall be determined by a majority of votes and, in the case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a casting vote.

[22/2007]

### **Proceedings of Disciplinary Committee**

**38.—**(1) A Disciplinary Committee shall meet from time to time to inquire into any matter referred to it by the Council and may regulate its own procedure.

[22/2007]

(2) A member of a Disciplinary Committee shall, notwithstanding that he has ceased to be a member of the Council or Complaints Panel on the expiry of his term of office, continue to be a member of the Disciplinary Committee until such time the Disciplinary Committee has completed its work.

[22/2007]

(3) The registered dentist or registered oral health therapist may appear in person or be represented by counsel.

[22/2007]

(4) A Disciplinary Committee shall not be bound to act in any formal manner and shall not be bound by the provisions of the Evidence Act (Cap. 97) or by any other written law relating to evidence but may inform itself on any matter in such manner as it thinks fit.

[22/2007]

(5) A Disciplinary Committee may, for the purpose of any proceedings before it, administer oaths and any party to the proceedings may sue out subpoenas to testify and to produce documents.

[22/2007]

(6) The subpoenas referred to in subsection (5) shall be served and may be enforced as if they were orders to attend court or orders to produce documents issued in connection with a civil action in the General Division of the High Court.

[22/2007]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

[Act 25 of 2021 wef 01/04/2022]

(7) Any person giving evidence before a Disciplinary Committee shall be legally bound to tell the truth.

[22/2007]

(8) Witnesses shall have the same privileges and immunities in relation to hearings before a Disciplinary Committee as if they were proceedings in a court of law.

[22/2007]

(9) A Disciplinary Committee shall carry out its work expeditiously and may apply to the Council for an extension of time and for directions to be given to the Disciplinary Committee if the Disciplinary Committee fails to make its finding and order within 6 months from the date of its appointment.

[22/2007]

(10) When an application for extension of time has been made under subsection (9), the Council may grant an extension of time for such period as it thinks fit.

[22/2007]

(11) In sections 172, 173, 174, 175, 177, 179, 182 and 228 of the Penal Code (Cap. 224), “public servant” shall be deemed to include a member of a Disciplinary Committee taking part in any investigation under this section, and in sections 193 and 228 of the Penal Code, “judicial proceeding” shall be deemed to include any such investigation.

[22/2007]

### **Reference and transfer of cases to Health Committee**

**39.—**(1) Where, in the course of inquiring into the case of a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist, it appears to a Disciplinary Committee that his fitness to practise may be impaired by reason of his physical or mental condition, the Disciplinary

Committee may refer that question to the Health Committee for determination.

[22/2007]

(2) If, on a reference under this section, the Health Committee determines that the fitness of the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist to practise is not impaired by reason of his condition, the Health Committee shall certify its opinion to the Disciplinary Committee.

[22/2007]

(3) If, on a reference under this section, the Health Committee determines that the fitness of the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist to practise is impaired by reason of his condition, the Health Committee shall —

- (a) certify its opinion to the Disciplinary Committee; and
- (b) proceed to dispose of the case,

and the Disciplinary Committee shall cease to exercise its function in relation to the case.

[22/2007]

### *Division 2 — Disciplinary Committee*

#### **Findings of Disciplinary Committee**

**40.—**(1) Where a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist is found or judged by a Disciplinary Committee —

- (a) to have been convicted in Singapore or elsewhere of any offence involving fraud or dishonesty;
- (b) to have been convicted in Singapore or elsewhere of any offence implying a defect in character which makes him unfit for his profession;
- (c) to have been guilty of such improper act or conduct which, in the opinion of the Disciplinary Committee, brings disrepute to his profession;
- (d) to have been guilty of professional misconduct; or
- (e) to have contravened section 31 or 31A,

the Disciplinary Committee may exercise one or more of the powers referred to in subsection (2).

[22/2007]

(2) The powers referred to in subsection (1) are as follows:

- (a) by order direct the Registrar to remove the name of the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned from the appropriate register;
- (b) by order suspend the registration of the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned for a period of not less than 3 months and not more than 3 years;
- (c) by order impose such conditions as are necessary to restrict the practice of the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned in such manner as the Disciplinary Committee thinks fit for a period not exceeding 3 years;
- (d) by order impose on the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned a penalty not exceeding \$50,000;
- (e) by writing censure the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned;
- (f) by order require the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned to give such undertaking as the Disciplinary Committee thinks fit to abstain in future from the conduct complained of; and
- (g) make such other order as the Disciplinary Committee thinks fit.

[22/2007]

(3) In any proceedings instituted under this Part against a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist consequent upon his conviction for a criminal offence, a Disciplinary Committee and the General Division of the High Court on appeal from any order of the Disciplinary Committee shall accept his conviction as final and conclusive.

[22/2007]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

(4) A Disciplinary Committee may under subsection (2) order the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned to pay to the Council such sums as it thinks fit in respect of costs and expenses of and incidental to any proceedings before the Disciplinary Committee and, where applicable, an Interim Orders Committee.

[22/2007]

(5) The General Division of the High Court shall have jurisdiction to tax such costs referred to in subsection (4) and any such order for costs made shall be enforceable as if it were ordered in connection with a civil action in the General Division of the High Court.

[22/2007]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

(6) The Disciplinary Committee in ordering that costs be paid by the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist under this section may certify that costs for more than one solicitor be paid if it is satisfied that the issues involved in the proceedings are of sufficient complexity, and the certification by the Disciplinary Committee shall have the same effect as if it were a certification by a Judge in a civil action in the General Division of the High Court.

[22/2007]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

(7) The costs and expenses referred to in subsection (4) shall include —

- (a) the costs and expenses of any assessor and advocate and solicitor appointed by the Council for proceedings before the Disciplinary Committee and the Interim Orders Committee;
- (b) such reasonable expenses as the Council may pay to witnesses; and
- (c) such reasonable expenses as are necessary for the conduct of proceedings before the Disciplinary Committee and the Interim Orders Committee.

[22/2007]

### **Orders of Disciplinary Committee**

**41.—**(1) Where a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist in respect of whom an order is made under



section 40(2)(c), or an order for interim restricted registration is made under section 49C(1)(b) or 49E(1)(d), is judged by a Disciplinary Committee (whether, in the case of an order under section 40(2)(c), it is the Disciplinary Committee that made the order or another Disciplinary Committee appointed in its place) to have failed to comply with any of the requirements imposed on him as conditions of his registration, the Disciplinary Committee may, if it thinks fit, order —

- (a) that his name be removed from the appropriate register; or
- (b) that his registration in the appropriate register be suspended for such period not exceeding 12 months as may be specified in the order.

[22/2007]

(2) Where a Disciplinary Committee has made an order for suspension under subsection (1)(b) or section 40(2)(b), the Disciplinary Committee may order that the registration of the person whose registration is suspended shall, as from the expiry of the current period of suspension, be restricted in such manner as it thinks fit for a period not exceeding 3 years.

[22/2007]

(3) Where a Disciplinary Committee has made an order for suspension under subsection (1)(b) or section 40(2)(b) against a person and that person has failed to comply with that order, the Disciplinary Committee or another Disciplinary Committee appointed in its place may, if it thinks fit, order —

- (a) that his name be removed from the appropriate register; or
- (b) that, as from the expiry of the current period of suspension, his registration in the appropriate register be restricted in such manner as it thinks fit for a period not exceeding 3 years.

[22/2007]

(4) Where a Disciplinary Committee has made an order under section 40(2)(c), the Disciplinary Committee or another Disciplinary Committee appointed in its place may revoke the order or revoke or vary any of the conditions imposed by the order.

[22/2007]

(5) Subsection (1) shall apply to a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist whose registration is subject to conditions imposed by an order made under subsection (2) or (3) as it applies to a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist whose registration is subject to conditions imposed by an order for restricted registration made under section 40(2)(c), and subsection (4) shall apply accordingly.

[22/2007]

(6) Where a Disciplinary Committee has made an order or has varied the conditions imposed by an order under this section, the Registrar shall immediately serve on the person to whom the order applies a notice of the order or the variation.

[22/2007]

(7) Any person who is aggrieved by any order referred to in subsection (6) may, within 30 days after the service on him of the notice of the order, appeal to the General Division of the High Court against the order and there shall be no appeal from the decision of the General Division of the High Court.

[22/2007]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

(8) In any appeal to the General Division of the High Court against an order referred to in subsection (6), the General Division of the High Court shall accept as final and conclusive any finding of the Disciplinary Committee relating to any issue of professional ethics or standards of professional conduct unless such finding is in the opinion of the General Division of the High Court unsafe, unreasonable or contrary to the evidence.

[22/2007]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

(9) Subject to subsection (10), an order made by a Disciplinary Committee for the removal of any name or for suspension of registration under subsection (1) or (3) or section 40(2) shall not take effect until the expiration of 30 days after the order is made.

[22/2007]

(10) On making an order for the removal of any name or for suspension of registration under subsection (1) or (3) or section 40(2), a Disciplinary Committee may, if it is satisfied that to do so is necessary for the protection of members of the public or would be in

the best interests of the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned, order that his registration in the appropriate register be suspended or that his name be removed from the appropriate register immediately.

[22/2007]

(11) Where an order under subsection (10) is made, the Registrar shall immediately serve a notice of the order on the person to whom it applies and if that person was present or represented at the proceedings of the Disciplinary Committee, the order shall take effect from the time the order is made.

[22/2007]

(12) Where the person concerned is neither present nor represented at the proceedings of the Disciplinary Committee, the order made under subsection (10) shall take effect from the time of service of the notice of the order on him.

[22/2007]

(13) An order of a Disciplinary Committee, other than an order for the removal of any name or for suspension of registration under subsection (1) or (3) or section 40(2), shall take effect from the time the order is made.

[22/2007]

(14) Notwithstanding anything in this section, where a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist has appealed to the General Division of the High Court against an order of a Disciplinary Committee under subsection (7), the order shall not take effect unless the order is confirmed by the General Division of the High Court or the appeal is for any reason dismissed by the General Division of the High Court or is withdrawn.

[22/2007]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

(15) While any order of suspension of registration remains in force, the person concerned shall not be regarded as being registered under this Act notwithstanding that his name still appears in the appropriate register, but immediately on the expiry of such order his rights and privileges as a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist shall be revived as from the date of such expiry provided that the

dentist or oral health therapist, as the case may be, has complied with all the terms of the order.

[22/2007]

(16) Where a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist is not found or judged by a Disciplinary Committee to have been convicted or guilty of any matter referred to in section 40(1), the Disciplinary Committee shall dismiss the complaint or matter.

[22/2007]

### **Restoration of names to appropriate register**

**42.—**(1) Where the name of a dentist or an oral health therapist has been removed from an appropriate register pursuant to an order made by a Disciplinary Committee under section 40 or 41, the Council may, upon application by the dentist or oral health therapist and if it thinks fit, direct —

- (a) that his name be restored to the appropriate register; or
- (b) where the person is a dentist, that he be registered as a dentist with conditional registration in Part II of the Register of Dentists, and section 14A(3) to (8) shall apply accordingly.

[22/2007]

(2) No application for the restoration of a name to an appropriate register under this section shall be made to the Council —

- (a) before the expiration of 3 years from the date of the removal of the name; or
- (b) more than once in any period of 12 months by or on behalf of the dentist or oral health therapist,

and unless the dentist or oral health therapist has complied with all the terms of the order made against him.

[22/2007]

### **Report of breach**

**43.** Where any breach of any written law is disclosed to the Disciplinary Committee in the course of an inquiry, the Disciplinary

Committee may, in its discretion, report the breach to the appropriate authorities.

[22/2007]

### **Findings of Disciplinary Committee**

44. [Repealed by Act 22 of 2007]

### **Costs of inquiry**

45. [Repealed by Act 22 of 2007]

### **Reference and transfer of cases to Health Committee**

46. [Repealed by Act 22 of 2007]

### **Appeal against order by Disciplinary Committee**

47. [Repealed by Act 22 of 2007]

## *Division 3 — Health Committee*

### **Health Committee**

48.—(1) There shall be a committee to be known as the Health Committee comprising not less than 3 members of the Council, to be appointed by the President, which shall inquire into any case referred to it under this Act.

[22/2007]

(2) The President shall appoint one of the members of the Health Committee as the chairman of the Committee.

(3) A member of the Health Committee shall be appointed for a term of 2 years and shall be eligible for reappointment.

(4) *(Deleted by Act 22 of 2007)*

(5) *(Deleted by Act 22 of 2007)*

(6) The Council may, with the approval of the Minister, appoint medical assessors to assist the Health Committee in its inquiry, and pay to the medical assessors, as part of the expenses of the Council, such remuneration as the Council may determine.

**Unfitness to practise through illness, etc.**

**49.—(1)** Where the fitness of a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist to practise dentistry is judged by the Health Committee to be impaired by reason of his physical or mental condition, the Health Committee may exercise one or more of the following powers:

- (a) order that he pays to the Council costs and expenses of and incidental to any inquiry or hearing by the Health Committee and, where applicable, an Interim Orders Committee;
- (b) order that his registration as a dentist or an oral health therapist be suspended for such period not exceeding 12 months as may be specified in the order;
- (c) order that his registration as a dentist or an oral health therapist be conditional on his compliance, during such period not exceeding 3 years as may be specified in the order, with such requirements as may be imposed by the Health Committee for the protection of members of the public or in his interests (referred to in this Division as restricted registration); and
- (d) recommend to the Council that his name be removed from the appropriate register.

[22/2007]

(2) Where a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist in respect of whom an order for restricted registration is made under subsection (1)(c), or an interim restricted registration is made under section 49C(1)(b) or 49E(1)(d), is judged by the Health Committee to have failed to comply with any of the requirements imposed on him as conditions of his registration, the Health Committee may, if it thinks fit, order that his registration be suspended for such period not exceeding 12 months as may be specified in the order.

[22/2007]

(3) Where the Health Committee has made an order for suspension under subsection (1) or (2), the Health Committee may order that the registration of the person whose registration is suspended shall, as

from the expiry of the current period of suspension, be a restricted registration.

(3A) Where the Health Committee has made an order for suspension under subsection (1) or (2) against a person and that person has failed to comply with that order, the Health Committee may, if it thinks fit —

- (a) make a recommendation referred to in subsection (1)(d) to the Council, and subsection (8) shall apply accordingly; or
- (b) order that, as from the expiry of the current period of suspension, his registration in the appropriate register be restricted in such manner as it thinks fit for a period not exceeding 3 years.

[22/2007]

(4) Where the Health Committee has made an order for restricted registration, the Health Committee may revoke the order or revoke or vary any of the conditions imposed by the order.

(5) Subsection (2) shall apply to a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist whose registration is a restricted registration by virtue of an order made under subsection (3) or (3A) as it applies to a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist whose registration is a restricted registration by virtue of an order referred to in subsection (1)(c), and subsection (4) shall apply accordingly.

[22/2007]

(6) Where the Health Committee has made any order under this section, or has varied the conditions imposed by an order for restricted registration, the Registrar shall immediately serve on the person to whom the order applies a notice of the order or of the variation.

(7) While a person's registration is suspended by virtue of this section, he shall not be regarded as being registered as a dentist or an oral health therapist notwithstanding that his name still appears in the appropriate register.

[22/2007]

(8) Where the Council accepts the recommendation of the Health Committee under subsection (1)(d), the Council shall by order direct that the name of the registered dentist or registered oral health

therapist be removed from the appropriate register and that order shall take effect from the date it is made.

[22/2007]

(8A) Sections 37(5), (6) and (7) and 38 shall apply, with the necessary modifications, to the Health Committee and references to a Disciplinary Committee shall be read as references to the Health Committee.

[22/2007]

(9) Any person who is aggrieved by an order, or any variation of the conditions imposed by an order for restricted registration, made under this section may, within 21 days of the service on him of the notification of the order, appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final.

(10) Any order or any variation of the conditions imposed by an order for restricted registration shall take effect from the time the order or variation is made unless the Minister decides otherwise.

### **Restoration of names removed on recommendation of Health Committee**

**49A.**—(1) Where the name of a person has been removed from an appropriate register on the recommendation of the Health Committee under section 49, the Council may, upon application by the person, if it thinks fit, direct —

- (a) that his name be restored to the appropriate register; or
- (b) where the person is a dentist, that he be registered as a dentist with conditional registration in Part II of the Register of Dentists, and section 14A(3) to (8) shall apply accordingly.

[22/2007]

(2) No application under subsection (1) shall be made to the Council more than once in any period of 12 months by or on behalf of the dentist or oral health therapist.

[22/2007]

(3) No application under subsection (1) shall be made to the Council by or on behalf of the dentist or oral health therapist unless



the dentist or oral health therapist has complied with all the terms of the order made against him.

[22/2007]

*Division 3A — Interim Orders Committee*

**Interim Orders Committee**

**49B.**—(1) The Council may, from time to time, appoint one or more committees each comprising 3 of its members, to be known for the purposes of this Act as Interim Orders Committees, to inquire into any matter referred by the Council under subsection (4).

[22/2007]

(2) The Council shall appoint one of the members of the Interim Orders Committee as chairman of that Committee.

[22/2007]

(3) An Interim Orders Committee may be appointed in connection with one or more matters or for a fixed period of time.

[22/2007]

(4) The chairman of the Complaints Panel, a Complaints Committee, a Disciplinary Committee or the Health Committee may refer any complaint or information to the Council for the purpose of determining if an order should be made under section 49C; and the Council shall refer the complaint or information to an Interim Orders Committee for this purpose.

[22/2007]

(5) A member of a Complaints Committee or Disciplinary Committee inquiring into any matter shall not be a member of an Interim Orders Committee inquiring into or reviewing that matter.

[22/2007]

(6) A member of an Interim Orders Committee inquiring into or reviewing any matter shall not be a member of a Complaints Committee or Disciplinary Committee inquiring into that matter, or take part in any deliberation of the Council under section 49(8) in respect of that matter.

[22/2007]

(7) Neither the chairman of the Complaints Panel nor any member of the Health Committee shall be a member of an Interim Orders Committee.

[22/2007]

(8) All members of an Interim Orders Committee shall vote on any question arising at a meeting of the Interim Orders Committee and such question shall be determined by a majority of votes.

[22/2007]

(9) A member of an Interim Orders Committee which has commenced any inquiry or review of any case shall, notwithstanding that he has ceased to be a member of the Council, continue to be a member of the Interim Orders Committee until completion of that inquiry or review.

[22/2007]

(10) Sections 37(5), (6) and (7) and 38(1) and (4) to (11) shall apply, with the necessary modifications, to an Interim Orders Committee and to proceedings before it as they apply to a Disciplinary Committee and to proceedings before a Disciplinary Committee.

[22/2007]

### **Interim orders**

**49C.**—(1) Where, upon due inquiry into any complaint or information referred to it, an Interim Orders Committee is satisfied that it is necessary for the protection of members of the public or is otherwise in the public interest, or is in the interests of a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist, for his registration to be suspended or to be made subject to conditions, the Interim Orders Committee may make an order —

- (a) that his registration in the appropriate register be suspended for such period not exceeding 18 months as may be specified in the order (referred to in this Division as an interim suspension order); or
- (b) that his registration be conditional on his compliance, during such period not exceeding 18 months as may be specified in the order, with such requirements so specified as the Interim Orders Committee thinks fit to impose

(referred to in this Division as an order for interim restricted registration).

(2) The Registrar shall immediately serve a notice of the order under subsection (1) on the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist.

[22/2007]

### Review of interim orders

**49D.**—(1) Subject to subsection (2), where an Interim Orders Committee has made an order under section 49C, the Interim Orders Committee or another Interim Orders Committee appointed in its place —

- (a) shall review the order within the period of 6 months beginning on the date on which the order was made, and shall thereafter, for so long as the order continues in force, further review it before the end of the period of 3 months beginning on the date of the decision of the immediately preceding review; and
- (b) may review the order where new evidence relevant to the order has become available after the making of the order.

[22/2007]

(2) Where the General Division of the High Court has extended the order under section 49G(2) or an Interim Orders Committee has made a replacement order under section 49E(1)(c) or (d), the first review after such extension or making of the replacement order shall take place —

- (a) if the order (or the order which has been replaced) had not been reviewed under subsection (1), within the period of 6 months beginning on the date on which the General Division of the High Court ordered the extension or on which the replacement order was made, as the case may be; or

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

- (b) if the order had been reviewed under subsection (1), within the period of 3 months beginning on the date on which the General Division of the High Court ordered the extension

or on which the replacement order was made, as the case may be.

[22/2007]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

### **Interim Orders Committee may revoke, vary or replace interim order**

**49E.**—(1) Where an interim suspension order or an order for interim restricted registration has been made under this section or section 49C in relation to any person, the Interim Orders Committee that made the order or another Interim Orders Committee appointed in its place may, either upon its review referred to in section 49D or upon the recommendation of a Complaints Committee, a Disciplinary Committee or the Health Committee —

- (a) revoke the order or revoke any condition imposed by the order;
- (b) make an order varying any condition imposed by the order;
- (c) if satisfied that to do so is necessary for the protection of members of the public or is otherwise in the public interest, or is in the interests of the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned, or that the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist has not complied with any requirement imposed as a condition of his registration in the order for interim restricted registration, replace that order with an interim suspension order having effect for the remainder of the period of the former; or
- (d) if satisfied that the public interest or the interests of the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned would be more adequately served by an order for interim restricted registration, replace the interim suspension order with an order for interim restricted registration having effect for the remainder of the period of the former.

[22/2007]

(2) The Registrar shall immediately serve a notice of the decision under subsection (1) on the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist.

[22/2007]

### **Right of hearing**

**49F.**—(1) No order under section 49C or 49E(1)(b), (c) or (d) shall be made by an Interim Orders Committee in respect of any registered dentist or registered oral health therapist unless he has been afforded an opportunity of appearing before the Interim Orders Committee and being heard on the question whether such an order should be made in his case.

[22/2007]

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist may be represented before the Interim Orders Committee by counsel.

[22/2007]

(3) Regulations made for the purposes of an Interim Orders Committee may include provision securing that the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist in respect of whom an interim suspension order or an order for interim restricted registration has been made shall, if he so requires, be entitled to be heard by the Interim Orders Committee on each occasion on which it reviews the order, and be represented by counsel during such review.

[22/2007]

### **Application to General Division of High Court**

**49G.**—(1) The Council may apply to the General Division of the High Court for an order made under section 49C or 49E(1)(c) or (d) to be extended, and may apply again for further extensions.

[22/2007]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

(2) On such an application, the General Division of the High Court may extend (or further extend) for up to 12 months the period for which the order has effect.

[22/2007]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

(3) The General Division of the High Court may, on application by the registered dentist or registered oral health therapist concerned —

- (a) in the case of an interim suspension order, revoke the order;
- (b) in the case of an order for interim restricted registration, revoke the order or vary any condition imposed by the order; and
- (c) in either case, substitute for the period specified in the order (or in the order extending it) some other period which could have been specified in the order when it was made (or in the order extending it).

[22/2007]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

[Act 40 of 2019 wef 02/01/2021]

### **Duration of interim orders**

**49H.**—(1) An interim suspension order or an order for interim restricted registration shall be in force until —

- (a) the end of the period specified in the order or, if extended under section 49G(2), in the order extending it; or
- (b) the date on which proceedings are concluded,

whichever is the earlier.

[22/2007]

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(b), proceedings are concluded if —

- (a) the Complaints Committee inquiring into the complaint or information has made an order under section 36(1)(a) and —
  - (i) no appeal to the Minister under section 36(6) or (7) was made against that decision within the period specified in that section or such an appeal was withdrawn; or
  - (ii) the Minister made an order under section 36(8)(a) or (c);

- (b) the Disciplinary Committee inquiring into the complaint or information has made an order under section 40(2) which has taken effect, or has dismissed the complaint or matter under section 41(16); or
- (c) the Health Committee has made an order under section 49(1) which has taken effect, the Council has made an order under section 49(8) which has taken effect, or the Health Committee has dismissed the complaint or matter,

as the case may be.

[22/2007]

### **Person suspended under interim suspension order not regarded as registered**

**49I.**—(1) While a person's registration in an appropriate register is suspended by virtue of an interim suspension order, he shall not be regarded as being registered notwithstanding that his name still appears in the appropriate register.

[22/2007]

(2) Immediately upon the expiry or revocation of the order, the person's rights and privileges as a registered dentist or registered oral health therapist shall be revived as from the date of such expiry or revocation, provided that he has complied with all the terms of the order.

[22/2007]

(3) For the avoidance of doubt, sections 33 to 40, 48 and 49 shall continue to apply to a person whose registration in an appropriate register is suspended by virtue of an interim suspension order.

[22/2007]

### **Council may appoint legal counsel**

**49J.** For the purposes of an inquiry under this Part by a Disciplinary Committee, the Health Committee or an Interim Orders Committee, the Council may appoint an advocate and solicitor and pay him, as part of the expenses of the Council, such remuneration as the Council may determine.

[22/2007]

*Division 4 — Miscellaneous Provisions***Where Council member is in public service or is officer of Board**

**50.** *[Repealed by Act 22 of 2007]*

**Service of documents**

**51.** *[Repealed by Act 22 of 2007]*

**Conviction final and conclusive**

**52.** *[Repealed by Act 22 of 2007]*

**Restoration of names to appropriate register**

**53.—**(1) A person whose name has been removed from an appropriate register under this Part may apply to the Council for his name to be restored to that appropriate register.

*[22/2007]*

(2) The Council may, after considering all relevant circumstances, and upon the compliance by the applicant of all conditions imposed by the Council, if any, and the payment of the prescribed fee, restore his name to the appropriate register.

*[22/2007]*

(3) Where the name of a person has been removed from an appropriate register by a Disciplinary Committee, no application for the restoration of his name to that appropriate register shall be made to the Council —

(a) before the expiration of 3 years from the date of the removal of the name; or

(b) more than once in any period of 12 months.

*[22/2007]*

**Recovery of penalties and costs**

**53A.** Any penalty imposed by the Council under sections 5 and 40 and any costs payable by any person under this Act shall be recoverable by the Council as a debt due to the Council from that



person and the person's liability to pay shall not be affected by his ceasing to be registered with the Council.

[22/2007]

## PART VI GENERAL

### **Funds of Council, etc.**

**54.**—(1) All fees, penalties and other moneys payable to the Council under this Act or any regulations made under this Act that are not paid are recoverable as a debt due to the Council.

[Act 20 of 2021 wef 01/01/2022]

(2) Subject to subsection (2A), all fees and other moneys (other than penalties) collected or recovered by the Council under this Act or any regulations made under this Act are to be paid to the Council.

[Act 20 of 2021 wef 01/01/2022]

(2A) All penalties collected or recovered under this Act or any regulations made under this Act must be paid into the Consolidated Fund.

[Act 20 of 2021 wef 01/01/2022]

(3) The costs and expenses of and incidental to the performance of the functions of the Council, the Complaints Committees, the Disciplinary Committees, the Health Committee and any committee appointed by the Council under this Act shall be paid by the Council out of its funds.

(4) The Minister may pay into the funds of the Council such sum of money out of moneys to be provided by Parliament as the Minister may determine.

(5) [Deleted by Act 5 of 2018 wef 01/04/2018]

[Act 20 of 2021 wef 01/01/2022]

### **Fees payable for members of Council and members of committees**

**55.** There shall be paid to —

(a) the members of the Council; and

- (b) the members of any committee appointed by the Council or by the President,

who are not public officers or full-time members of the academic staff of the National University of Singapore such fees as may, from time to time, be approved by the Minister.

### Inspectors

**56.—**(1) The Council may appoint one or more public officers or officers of the Board as inspectors to investigate the commission of an offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder.

[5/2001]

(2) In any case relating to the commission of an offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder, an inspector shall have the power to do all or any of the following:

- (a) to require any person who the inspector has reason to believe has any article, document or information relevant to the carrying out of the provisions of this Act or the regulations made thereunder, to produce any such article or document, or give such information, and to retain such article or document, or make copies of such document;
- (b) to examine orally any person supposed to be acquainted with the facts and circumstances relevant to the carrying out of the provisions of this Act or the regulations made thereunder, and to reduce into writing the answer given or statement made by that person who shall be bound to state truly the facts and circumstances with which he is acquainted, and the statement made by that person shall be read over to him and shall, after correction, be signed by him;
- (c) to require by order in writing the attendance before him of any person who, from information given or otherwise, appears to be acquainted with facts and circumstances relevant to the carrying out of the provisions of this Act or the regulations made thereunder.

(3) An inspector may apply to a Magistrate for a search warrant if the inspector has reasonable cause to believe that evidence of the

commission of an offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder can be found therein; and the Magistrate may, if satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for doing so, issue the warrant.

(4) A search warrant issued under subsection (3) authorises the inspector to whom it is directed to enter and search the premises referred to in the warrant and to seize any thing found on the premises which he reasonably believes is evidence of the commission of an offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder.

(5) Any person who —

- (a) intentionally offers any resistance to or wilfully delays an inspector in the exercise of any power under subsection (2) or in pursuance of a search warrant issued under subsection (3); or
- (b) fails to comply with any requisition or order of an inspector under subsection (2),

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

### **Assessor to Council**

**57.—**(1) For the purposes of advising the Council, the Complaints Committees, the Disciplinary Committees, the Health Committee and the Interim Orders Committee in any proceedings before any of them under the provisions of this Act, the Council may appoint an assessor to the Council who shall be an advocate and solicitor of not less than 10 years' standing.

[22/2007]

(2) The assessor shall not participate or sit in any deliberations of the Council, the Complaints Committees, the Disciplinary Committees, the Health Committee or the Interim Orders Committee unless invited to do so, and his participation shall be limited only to questions of law arising from the proceedings.

[22/2007]

(3) The Council may pay to the assessor, as part of the expenses of the Council, such remuneration as the Council may determine.

**Protection from personal liability**

**58.** No liability shall lie against —

- (a) any member of the Council;
- (b) any member of —
  - (i) the Dental Specialists Accreditation Board; and
  - (ii) any committee appointed by the Dental Specialists Accreditation Board under section 32A(10);
- (c) the chairman of the Complaints Panel;
- (d) any member of —
  - (i) any Complaints Committee, Disciplinary Committee or Interim Orders Committee;
  - (ii) the Health Committee; and
  - (iii) any committee appointed by the Council under this Act; or
- (e) any employee of the Council or any other person acting under the direction of the Council,

for anything which is done or purported to be done, or omitted to be done, in good faith and with reasonable care in the exercise or purported exercise of any power or the performance or purported performance of any function under this Act or any regulations made under this Act.

*[Act 20 of 2021 wef 01/01/2022]*

**Exemption in respect of persons in public service or employed by Board or prescribed companies or organisation**

**59.** *[Repealed by Act 22 of 2007]*

**Exemption in respect of medical practitioners**

**60.** Nothing in this Act shall prevent the practice of medicine or surgery by any medical practitioner registered under the Medical Registration Act (Cap. 174).

### Exemption in respect of dental training

**61.** Nothing in this Act shall prevent the doing of any act within the practice of dentistry by any oral health therapist, dental student or medical student if the act is carried out —

- (a) in the course of his training;
- (b) under the supervision of a registered dentist whose name appears in the first division of the Register of Dentists; and
- (c) in a hospital or dental school approved for the purposes of this section by the Council.

[22/2007]

### Exemption

**61A.** The Minister may, by order published in the *Gazette* and subject to such conditions as he may impose, exempt any person or class of persons from any or all of the provisions of this Act or any regulations made thereunder.

[22/2007]

### Composition of offences

**61B.—(1)** The Council may, in its discretion, compound any offence under this Act or any regulations made under this Act, which is prescribed as a compoundable offence by collecting from a person reasonably suspected of having committed the offence a sum not exceeding —

- (a) one half of the amount of the maximum fine that is prescribed for the offence; or
- (b) \$500,

whichever is the lower.

[22/2007]

[Act 20 of 2021 wef 01/01/2022]

(2) On payment of such sum of money, no further proceedings shall be taken against that person in respect of the offence.

[22/2007]

(3) The Council may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations to prescribe the offences which may be compounded.

[22/2007]

(4) All sums collected under this section must be paid into the Consolidated Fund.

[22/2007]

[Act 20 of 2021 wef 01/01/2022]

### **Jurisdiction of court**

**61C.** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Criminal Procedure Code (Cap. 68), a District Court shall have jurisdiction to try any offence under this Act or any regulations made under this Act, and shall have power to impose the full penalty or punishment in respect of the offence.

[22/2007]

[Act 20 of 2021 wef 01/01/2022]

### **Amendment of Schedule**

**61D.—**(1) The Minister may, after consultation with the Council, by order amend the Schedule.

[Act 20 of 2021 wef 01/01/2022]

(2) The Minister may, in any order made under subsection (1), make such saving or transitional provisions as may be necessary or expedient.

[Act 20 of 2021 wef 01/01/2022]

### **Power of Council to make regulations**

**62.—**(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Council may, with the approval of the Minister, make such regulations as may be necessary or expedient to give effect to the provisions and purposes of this Act and for the due administration thereof.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), regulations may be made to —

- (a) provide for the duties of the Registrar;
- (b) regulate the registration of dentists and oral health therapists;
- (c) provide for the form of the appropriate register and the mode in which it shall be kept;
- (d) regulate the grant of practising certificates;

- (e) regulate the procedure of any committee appointed by the Council or the President under this Act and the conduct of any proceedings of such committee;
- (f) regulate the professional practice, etiquette, conduct and discipline of registered dentists and registered oral health therapists;
- (fa) define the scope of practice of registered oral health therapists;
- (g) regulate the removal and restoration of names in the appropriate register;
- (h) prescribe the forms necessary for the administration of this Act;
- (i) prescribe the fees and other charges for the purposes of this Act;
- (j) provide for the duties, functions and payment of medical assessors appointed under section 48 and the assessor appointed under section 57;
- (k) provide that any person who contravenes the regulations shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both; and
- (l) prescribe such other matter as are necessary or authorised to be prescribed under this Act.

[22/2007]

## PART VII

### TRANSITIONAL AND CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS

#### **Dental Board members to serve as Council members until establishment of Council**

**63.**—(1) Notwithstanding section 3, persons who hold office as members of the Dental Board immediately before 15th October 1999

shall hold office as members of the Council until such time as the Council is established in accordance with section 3.

(2) For the purposes of this section and section 66, “Dental Board” means the Dental Board established under section 3 of the repealed Act.

### **Persons who are already registered under repealed Act**

**64.**—(1) Every person who is registered under the repealed Act immediately before 15th October 1999, and every holder of a provisional certificate issued under section 13 of the repealed Act which is in force immediately before that date, shall be deemed to be a registered dentist.

(2) Where the registration of a person under the repealed Act, being a registration made pursuant to an order under section 6(1)(c) of that Act, is subject to any condition or restriction imposed by the order, the deemed registration of that person under subsection (1) shall, unless the Council otherwise determines, be subject to the same condition or restriction.

(3) The deemed registration of a person under subsection (1), on the ground that he is registered under the repealed Act immediately before 15th October 1999 by virtue of section 6(1)(d) of the repealed Act, shall be subject to the condition that —

(a) he is exclusively employed in teaching, research or postgraduate study; and

(b) he does not engage in any form of private practice of dentistry.

(4) The Registrar shall —

(a) transfer to the first division of the register the names, addresses, qualifications and other particulars of all persons registered under the repealed Act by virtue of section 6(1)(a), (b), (c) and (d) of the repealed Act which appear, immediately before 15th October 1999, in the register kept under the repealed Act;

(b) transfer to the second division of the register the names, addresses, qualifications and other particulars of all



persons registered under the repealed Act by virtue of section 6(1)(e) and (f) of the repealed Act which appear, immediately before 15th October 1999, in the register kept under the repealed Act; and

- (c) enter in the second division of the register the names, addresses, qualifications, and such other particulars as the Council may determine, of all holders of provisional certificates issued under section 13 of the repealed Act which are in force immediately before 15th October 1999.

(5) The Registrar may, in carrying out the transfer under subsection (4)(a) or (b) or entry under subsection (4)(c), omit the particulars of any person known to the Registrar to be deceased.

(6) Section 53 shall also apply to any person whose name was removed from the register kept under the repealed Act.

### **Saving of certificates of registration and annual practising certificates issued under repealed Act**

**65.**—(1) Any certificate of registration issued under the repealed Act shall be deemed to be a certificate of registration issued under this Act and be subject to the provisions of this Act.

(2) Any annual practising certificate issued under the repealed Act which is in force immediately before 15th October 1999 shall —

- (a) be deemed to be a practising certificate issued under this Act;
- (b) be subject to the provisions of this Act; and
- (c) expire on the date on which it would have expired had this Act not been in force and be renewable in accordance with section 17.

### **Pending disciplinary proceedings**

**66.**—(1) This Act shall not apply to any inquiry, investigation or other proceedings of a disciplinary nature commenced before 15th October 1999 and the provisions of the repealed Act and the regulations made thereunder shall continue to apply to that inquiry, investigation or proceedings as if this Act had not been enacted.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Dental Board shall continue to exist to complete its hearing of those proceedings and make such order or decision as it could have made under the repealed Act and the regulations made thereunder.

(3) Any order or decision made by the Dental Board pursuant to the provisions of the repealed Act or the regulations made thereunder shall be treated as an order or decision under this Act and shall have the same force and effect as if it had been made or given by the Disciplinary Committee pursuant to the powers vested in the Disciplinary Committee under this Act.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be taken as prejudicing section 16 of the Interpretation Act (Cap. 1).

**67.** [*Repealed by Act 4 of 2021 wef 01/03/2021*]

### **Consequential amendments to other written laws**

**68.** In any written law and in any document —

- (a) any reference to the repealed Act shall be construed as a reference to this Act;
- (b) any reference to the Dental Board shall be construed as a reference to the Council;
- (c) any reference to the President of the Dental Board shall be construed as a reference to the President of the Council; and
- (d) any reference to a registered dentist shall be construed as a reference to a registered dentist under this Act.

## THE SCHEDULE

Sections 14A and 61D

### LIST OF REGISTRABLE BASIC DENTAL QUALIFICATIONS

<i>First column</i>	<i>Second column</i>	<i>Third column</i>
<i>Country</i>	<i>Body Granting Qualifications</i>	<i>Primary Qualifications</i>
Australia	1. University of Sydney	B.D.S./BDent

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

<i>First column</i>	<i>Second column</i>	<i>Third column</i>
<i>Country</i>	<i>Body Granting Qualifications</i>	<i>Primary Qualifications</i>
	2. University of Queensland	B.D.Sc.
	3. University of Adelaide	B.D.S.
	4. University of Melbourne	B.D.Sc.
	5. University of Western Australia	B.D.Sc.
Canada	1. University of Alberta	D.D.S
	2. University of British Columbia	D.M.D
	3. University of Manitoba	D.M.D
	4. Dalhousie University	D.D.S
	5. University of Toronto	D.D.S
	6. University of Western Ontario	D.D.S
	7. Laval University	D.M.D
	8. McGill University	D.D.S
	9. University of Montreal	D.M.D
	10. University of Saskatchewan	D.M.D
Hong Kong	1. University of Hong Kong	B.D.S.
New Zealand	1. University of Otago	B.D.S.
Republic of Ireland	1. National University of Ireland	B.D.S.
	2. University of Dublin	B.Dent.Sc.
United Kingdom	1. University of Birmingham	B.D.S.
	2. University of Bristol	B.D.S.

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

<i>First column</i>	<i>Second column</i>	<i>Third column</i>
<i>Country</i>	<i>Body Granting Qualifications</i>	<i>Primary Qualifications</i>
	3. University of Leeds	B.Ch.D.
	4. University of Liverpool	B.D.S.
	5. University of London	B.D.S.
	6. University of Manchester	B.D.S.
	7. University of Newcastle upon Tyne	B.D.S.
	8. University of Sheffield	B.D.S.
	9. Queen's University of Belfast	B.D.S.
	10. University of Dundee	B.D.S.
	11. University of Edinburgh	B.D.S.
	12. University of Glasgow	B.D.S.
	13. University of Wales	B.D.S.
United States of America	1. University of Alabama School of Dentistry at UAB	D.M.D
	2. A.T. Still University Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health	D.M.D
	3. Loma Linda University School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	4. University of California at Los Angeles School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	5. University of California at San Francisco School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	6. University of the Pacific Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	7. University of Southern California School of Dentistry	D.D.S

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

<i>First column</i>	<i>Second column</i>	<i>Third column</i>
<i>Country</i>	<i>Body Granting Qualifications</i>	<i>Primary Qualifications</i>
	8. University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center	D.D.S
	9. University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine	D.M.D
	10. Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine	D.M.D
	11. University of Florida College of Dentistry	D.M.D
	12. Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry	D.M.D
	13. Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine	D.M.D
	14. University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry	D.D.S
	15. Northwestern University	D.D.S
	16. Indiana University School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	17. University of Iowa College of Dentistry	D.D.S
	18. University of Kentucky College of Dentistry	D.M.D
	19. University of Louisville School of Dentistry	D.M.D
	20. Louisiana State University School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	21. Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine	D.M.D
	22. Harvard University School of Dental Medicine	D.M.D

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

<i>First column</i>	<i>Second column</i>	<i>Third column</i>
<i>Country</i>	<i>Body Granting Qualifications</i>	<i>Primary Qualifications</i>
	23. Tufts University School of Dental Medicine	D.M.D
	24. University of Maryland Baltimore College of Dental Surgery	D.D.S
	25. University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	26. University of Michigan School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	27. University of Minnesota School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	28. University of Mississippi School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	29. University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	30. Creighton University School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	31. University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry	D.D.S
	32. University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey New Jersey Dental School	D.M.D
	33. University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Dental Medicine	D.M.D
	34. Columbia University College of Dental Medicine	D.D.S
	35. New York University College of Dentistry	D.D.S

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

<i>First column</i>	<i>Second column</i>	<i>Third column</i>
<i>Country</i>	<i>Body Granting Qualifications</i>	<i>Primary Qualifications</i>
	36. State University of New York at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine	D.D.S
	37. State University of New York at Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine	D.D.S
	38. University of North Carolina School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	39. Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine	D.M.D
	40. Ohio State University College of Dentistry	D.D.S
	41. University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry	D.D.S
	42. Oregon Health and Science University School of Dentistry	D.M.D
	43. Temple University The Maurice H.Kornberg School of Dentistry	D.M.D
	44. University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine	D.M.D
	45. University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine	D.M.D
	46. University of Puerto Rico School of Dentistry	D.M.D
	47. Medical University of South Carolina College of Dental Medicine	D.M.D
	48. Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry	D.D.S

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

<i>First column</i>	<i>Second column</i>	<i>Third column</i>
<i>Country</i>	<i>Body Granting Qualifications</i>	<i>Primary Qualifications</i>
	49. University of Tennessee College of Dentistry	D.D.S
	50. Baylor College of Dentistry Component of Texas A and M Health Science Centre	D.D.S
	51. University of Texas Health Science Centre-Houston Dental Branch	D.D.S
	52. University of Texas Health Science Centre-San Antonio Dental School	D.D.S
	53. Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	54. Howard University College of Dentistry	D.D.S
	55. University of Washington- Health Sciences School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	56. West Virginia University School of Dentistry	D.D.S
	57. Marquette University School of Dentistry	D.D.S.



LEGISLATIVE HISTORY  
DENTAL REGISTRATION ACT  
(CHAPTER 76)

*(formerly known as the Dentists Act)*

This Legislative History is provided for the convenience of users of the Dental Registration Act. It is not part of the Act.

**1. Ordinance 30 of 1948 — Registration of Dentists Ordinance 1948**

Dates of First, Second and Third Readings : Dates not available.

Date of commencement : 1 October 1949

**2. Ordinance 8 of 1952 — Registration of Dentists (Amendment) Ordinance 1952**

Dates of First, Second and Third Readings : Dates not available.

Date of commencement : 27 March 1952

**3. Ordinance 8 of 1955 — Revised Edition of the Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 1955**

Dates of First, Second and Third Readings : Dates not available.

Date of commencement : 1 July 1956

**4. 1955 Revised Edition — Registration of Dentists Ordinance**

Date of operation : 1 July 1956

**5. Ordinance 72 of 1959 — Transfer of Powers (No. 2) Ordinance 1959**

Dates of First, Second and Third Readings : Dates not available.

Date of commencement : 20 November 1959

**6. Ordinance 14 of 1964 — Registration of Dentists (Amendment) Ordinance 1964**

Dates of First, Second and Third Readings : Dates not available.

Date of commencement : 4 December 1964

**7. Act 30 of 1971 — Dentists Registration (Amendment) Act 1971**

Date of First Reading	:	19 October 1971 (Bill No. 16/1071 published on 22 October 1971)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	2 December 1971
Date of commencement	:	14 July 1972

**8. Act 44 of 1975 — Dentists Registration (Amendment) Act 1975**

Date of First Reading	:	11 November 1975 (Bill No. 47 of 1975 published on 11 November 1975)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	20 November 1975
Date of commencement	:	19 March 1976

**9. Act 13 of 1980 — Dentists Registration (Amendment) Act 1980**

Date of First Reading	:	27 February 1980 (Bill No. 2/1980 published on 29 February 1980)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	17 March 1980
Date of commencement	:	9 May 1980

**10. Act 5 of 1981 — Statutes of the Republic of Singapore (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1981**

Date of First Reading	:	17 February 1981 (Bill No. 1/1981 published on 20 February 1981)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	6 March 1981
Date of commencement	:	24 April 1981

**11. G. N. No. S 158/81 — Dentists Registration Act (Substitution of Schedule) Notification 1981**

Date of commencement	:	8 May 1981
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**12. G. N. No. S 20/84 — Dentists Registration Act (Substitution of Schedule) Notification 1984**

Date of commencement	:	1 February 1984
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**13. 1985 Revised Edition — Dentists Act**

Date of operation	:	30 March 1987
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**14. G. N. No. S 398/89 — Dentists Act (Amendment of Schedule)  
Notification 1989**

Date of commencement : 6 October 1989

**15. Act 24 of 1999 — Dentists Act 1999**

Date of First Reading : 4 May 1999  
(Bill No. 17/99 published on  
5 May 1999)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 6 July 1999

Date of commencement : 15 October 1999

**16. 2000 Revised Edition — Dentists Act (Chapter 76)**

Date of operation : 30 December 2000

**17. Act 5 of 2001 — Health Promotion Board Act 2001**

Date of First Reading : 12 January 2001  
(Bill No. 2/2001 published on  
13 January 2001)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 22 February 2001

Date of commencement : 1 April 2001

**18. Act 42 of 2005 — Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Act 2005**

Date of First Reading : 17 October 2005  
(Bill No. 30/2005 published on  
18 October 2005)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 21 November 2005

Date of commencement : 1 January 2006 (item (9) of Fifth  
Schedule — Amendment of  
Dentists Act)

**19. Act 22 of 2007 — Dentists (Amendment) Act 2007**

Date of First Reading : 27 February 2007  
(Bill No. 9/2007 published on  
27 February 2007)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 12 April 2007

Date of commencement : 1 January 2008

**20. G. N. No. S 682/2007 — Dental Registration Act (Amendment of  
Schedule) Order 2007**

Date of commencement : 1 January 2008

**21. 2009 Revised Edition — Dental Registration Act**

Date of operation : 31 July 2009

**22. Act 1 of 2010 — Medical Registration (Amendment) Act 2010**

Date of First Reading : 19 October 2009  
(Bill No. 22/2009 published on  
19 October 2009)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 11 January 2010

Date of commencement : 1 December 2010 (Section 38 —  
Amendment of Dental  
Registration Act)

**23. Act 5 of 2018 — Public Sector (Governance) Act 2018**

Bill : 45/2017

First Reading : 6 November 2017

Second and Third Readings : 8 January 2018

Commencement : 1 April 2018

**24. Act 40 of 2019 — Supreme Court of Judicature (Amendment) Act 2019**

Bill : 32/2019

First Reading : 7 October 2019

Second and Third Readings : 5 November 2019

Commencement : 2 January 2021

**25. Act 4 of 2021 — Statute Law Reform Act 2021**

Bill : 45/2020

First Reading : 3 November 2020

Second and Third Readings : 5 January 2021

Commencement : 1 March 2021

**26. Act 20 of 2021 — Dental Registration (Amendment) Act 2021**

Bill : 16/2021

First Reading : 5 July 2021

Second and Third Readings : 2 August 2021

Commencement : 1 January 2022

**27. Act 25 of 2021 — Courts (Civil and Criminal Justice) Reform Act 2021**  
(Amendments made by section 223(4) of the above Act)

Bill	: 18/2021
First Reading	: 26 July 2021
Second and Third Readings	: 14 September 2021
Commencement	: 1 April 2022

**COMPARATIVE TABLE**  
**DENTAL REGISTRATION ACT**  
**(CHAPTER 76)**

The following provisions in the 2000 Revised Edition of the Dental Registration Act have been renumbered by the Law Revision Commissioners in this 2009 Revised Edition.

This Comparative Table is provided for the convenience of users. It is not part of the Dental Registration Act.

<b>2009 Ed.</b>	<b>2000 Ed.</b>
<b>3—(1) and (2)</b>	<b>3—(1) and (2)</b>
—	<i>(3) (Deleted by Act 22/2007)</i>
(4) to (6)	(4) to (6)
<b>17—(1) to (6)</b>	<b>17—(1) to (6)</b>
—	<i>(7) (Deleted by Act 22/2007)</i>
(8) to (10)	(8) to (10)
—	<b>18 (Repealed by Act 22/2007)</b>
<b>19—(a) and (b)</b>	<b>19</b>
—	<b>44 (Repealed by Act 22/2007)</b>
—	<b>45 (Repealed by Act 22/2007)</b>
—	<b>46 (Repealed by Act 22/2007)</b>
—	<b>47 (Repealed by Act 22/2007)</b>
<b>48—(1) to (3)</b>	<b>48—(1) to (3)</b>
—	<i>(4) (Deleted by Act 22/2007)</i>
—	<i>(5) (Deleted by Act 22/2007)</i>
(6)	(6)
—	<b>50 (Repealed by Act 22/2007)</b>
—	<b>51 (Repealed by Act 22/2007)</b>
—	<b>52 (Repealed by Act 22/2007)</b>
—	<b>59 (Repealed by Act 22/2007)</b>

**COMPARATIVE TABLE**  
**DENTAL REGISTRATION ACT**  
**(CHAPTER 76)**

The following provisions in the Dentists Act 1999 (Act 24 of 1999) were renumbered by the Law Revision Commissioners in the 2000 Revised Edition.

This Comparative Table is provided for the convenience of users. It is not part of the Dentists Act.

<b>2000 Ed.</b>	<b>Act 24 of 1999</b>
<i>Omitted</i>	<b>63</b>
<b>63</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>64</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>65</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>66</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>67</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>68</b>	<b>69—(1)</b>
<i>Omitted</i>	<b>(2)</b>