REPORT OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON PROSTHODONTICS EDUCATION TO THE COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION

Committee Chair: Dr. John Agar. Committee Members: Dr. Ronald Burakoff, Dr. Louis DiPede, Dr. Hiroshi Hirayama, Dr. Kent Knoernschild, and Dr. Elizabeth Sabin. Guests (Open Session Only): Mr. Adam Reshan, Director of Membership Services and Academic Relations, American College of Prosthodontists, attended the policy portion of the meeting. Staff Members: Ms. Peggy Soeldner, manager, Advanced Dental Education, Ms. Jennifer Snow, manager, Advanced Dental Education, Mr. Gregg Marquardt, manager, Communications and Technology, Ms. Danielle Patrick-Wade, senior project assistant, and Ms. Marjorie Hooper, operations coordinator, Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). Dr. Sherin Tooks, director, CODA, attended a portion of the meeting. The meeting of the Review Committee on Prosthodontics Education (PROS RC) was held on July 10, 2019 via telephone conference call.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO PROSTHODONTICS EDUCATION

Informational Report of Frequency of Citings of Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Prosthodontics (p. 1400): The Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Prosthodontics were approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation August 7, 2015, with implementation on July 1, 2016. Since that date, the Commission has reviewed 20 site visit reports on prosthodontics programs (including maxillofacial prosthetics) conducted by visiting committees of the Commission utilizing the July 2016 Standards. Analysis of the data indicates two (2) areas of non-compliance were cited during the reporting period, one (1) in Standard 2-1 related program director responsibilities and one (1) in Standard 5, related to a system of ongoing evaluation of student/resident achievement. Due to the limited number of citings, a trend in the data cannot be identified. The Commission will continue to receive reports annually summarizing the updated data on the frequency of citings of individual Standards.

Recommendation: This report is informational in nature and no action is required.

Consideration of Proposed Revision to Accreditation Standards Definition of Terms Related to Special Needs (p. 1401): On May 28, 2019, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) received a request from the Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA) asking its review committees to consider the standardization of a definition for “Special Needs” across the various Accreditation Standards under the Commission’s purview instead of using different iterations of the definition of special needs. The Special Care Dentistry Association believes that the definition of special needs in many of the educational program Accreditation Standards is missing vulnerable older adults and proposed a definition for “Special Needs” that is derived from the Dental Education Standards (Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1401).

The PROS RC appreciates the importance of terminology to define patients with special needs, including a uniform approach to the terminology. As such, the PROS RC noted that a majority
of the advanced dental education standards currently include a common philosophical statement in the Preface that is similar to the language proposed by the SCDA. The prosthodontics standards Preface states:

The profession has a duty to consider patients’ preferences, and their social, economic and emotional circumstances when providing care, as well as to attend to patients whose medical, physical and psychological or social situation make it necessary to modify normal dental routines in order to provide dental treatment. These individuals include, but are not limited to, people with developmental disabilities, cognitive impairments, complex medical problems, significant physical limitations, and the vulnerable elderly. The Standards reconfirm and emphasize the importance of educational processes and goals for comprehensive patient care and encourage patient-centered approaches in teaching, research and oral health care delivery.

In addition, the PROS RC noted the intent statement found in Standard 4-18 of the Accreditation Standards includes language to address providing prosthodontic therapy to a wide scope of patients, including patients with varying degrees of cognitive and physical impairment.

Following discussion, and based on existing language with the Accreditation Standards for prosthodontics, the PROS RC determined that no further changes to the standards are warranted at this time related to the SCDA’s request.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct that the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Prosthodontics be retained as written.

**CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATING TO MORE THAN ONE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Matters related to more than one review committee are included in a separate report.

**CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO ACCREDITATION STATUS**

Matters related to accreditation status of programs are included in a separate report.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. John Agar
Chair, Review Committee on Prosthodontics Education