The Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations (JCNDE) met at the American Dental Association Headquarters on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 24-25, 2012, and took the following actions:

1. Approved the 2013 budget proposal, including a $10 increase to 2013 application fees, and a $2.50 increase to score report request fees. The total 2013 examination fees charged to candidates will be $355 for Part I, $400 for Part II, and $390 for the Dental Hygiene Examination. In 2013, score report request fees will be $32.50.

2. Approved continuing the established policies and procedures for granting permission for use of the JCNDE’s intellectual property by dental educational programs, dental hygiene educational programs, and ASDA.

3. Approved the procedures for granting permission to educational programs for use of the Case Development and Test Item Development Guides by dental schools for faculty development.

4. Approved existing National Board Dental Examination (NBDE) and National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (NBDHE) released item sets.

5. Approved procedures for the sale of NBDHE materials to individuals for a fee to cover costs of production and distribution.

6. Approved actions to terminate the existing contract with Brown and Herbranson/eHuman; monitor Brown and Herbranson/eHuman’s compliance with existing contract terms; and investigate delivery options for online NBDE and NBDHE practice tests.

7. Approved efforts to renew the contract with ASDA concerning released NBDE items.

8. Adopted revisions to the Examination Regulations. Many of the proposed revisions reflect changes related to the discontinuation of print-based examinations, while other changes align the document with previous JCNDE decisions concerning the release of candidate examination results.

9. Adopted revisions to the Standing Rules. Most of the proposed revisions were editorial in nature, with the exception of a change indicating that examination results may be withheld or reported when forensic analyses provide compelling information indicating the presence of an irregularity. Previously the Standing Rules had indicated that results would simply be withheld in this circumstance.

10. Approved the methodology and findings of the 2011 practice analysis conducted in support of the validity of the NBDE Part II, and adopted the NBDE Part II specifications in accordance with these findings. The revised specifications will take effect in 2013.

11. Approved the reappointment of Dental and Dental Hygiene examination test constructors and the appointment of primary and alternate test constructors for the Dental and Dental Hygiene examinations for 2013.

12. Approved the review of criteria for selecting dental hygiene test constructors.
13. Approved the identification of key research topics that would benefit the Joint Commission's testing program. These topics would be determined by key stakeholders (e.g., the Committee on Research and Development, the Committee for an Integrated Examination, staff). In reviewing future Innovative Dental Assessment Research Grant Program (IDEA) proposals, special consideration will be given to topics that are consistent with the goals of the Joint Commission's current and future testing programs.

14. Approved the following changes to the IDEA application procedure: (1) IDEA applicants must include a letter of intent with a 2-page summary of their proposed projects, (2) the timeline between application and award cycle is revised to include the submission and review of the letter of intent, and (3) the letter of intent must be reviewed by the chair of the Committee on Research and Development, one R&D consultant, and one staff member. The intention of these changes is to increase the quality of proposals received and their alignment with the goals of the Joint Commission.

15. Considered three IDEA proposals requesting funding for the 2011-2012 funding cycle, but denied all three requests.

16. Approved of a list of 2012-2013 research and development projects and expenditures, and expenditures pertaining to projects currently supported by the IDEA program.

17. Approved the 2011 editions of the NBDE and NBDHE Technical Reports.

18. Considered a request by the NBDE Part II Pharmacology Test Construction Committee (TCC) for Pharmacology TCC members to determine pharmacology content and its weighting for NBDE Part II. The JCNDE denied this request.

19. Considered additional information concerning the impact of the 5-Years/5-Attempts Examination Eligibility Rule, and reviewed existing deterrents to irregularities. The JCNDE took no action concerning this information.

20. Considered information concerning the development and progress of the Integrated National Board Dental Examination. The JCNDE took no action concerning this information.

21. Elected Dr. Guy Shampaine as Chair and Dr. Lorin D. Peterson as Vice Chair of the Joint Commission. Their terms will begin in October of 2012.

22. Approved April 9, 2014 as the scheduled Joint Commission meeting date for 2014.

Dr. Peter S. Trager (ADA), Chair
Dr. J. Stephen Sill (AADB), Vice Chair
Dr. B. Ellen Byrne (ADEA)
Dr. Jerri Ann Donahue (AADB)
Dr. Connie Drisko (ADEA)
Ms. Mary Lou Gerosky (ADHA)
Dr. Birgit J. Glass (ADEA)
Dr. Robert A. Hersh (ADA)
Dr. Lorin D. Peterson (ADA)
Dr. Lee Ann Podruch (AADB)
Dr. Guy Shampaine (AADB)
Ms. Kelley Shannon (Public)
Mr. Adam Shisler (ASDA)
Dr. Samuel A. Trinca (AADB)
Dr. M. Reggie VanderVeen (AADB)

Dr. Patricia L. Blanton (ADA Board Liaison)