



**COAG Health Council
Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council**

Dr John Lockwood
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Dear Dr Lockwood

Approval of revised Dental Board of Australia List of recognised dental specialties, related specialist titles, and definitions

Thank you for your letter of 27 January 2017, on behalf of the Dental Board of Australia (the Board), recommending approval of the proposed revised *List of recognised dental specialties, related specialist titles, and definitions* (the revised list of dental specialties).

I am pleased to advise that pursuant to section 13 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory, the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (AHWMC) decided on 11 July 2017, to approve the revised list of dental specialties as recommended by the Board.

In approving the revised list of dental specialties, Ministers noted advice from the Board that the revisions would align the dental specialist titles and/or definitions with international nomenclature and better reflect the nature of work undertaken by dentists within the existing specialty. We note that the changes are of a minor, technical nature and were supported by all stakeholders in preliminary and public consultation.

Finally, Ministers agreed with the Board's proposal that the approved revised list of dental specialties be published as soon as practicable after approval, but that it take effect approximately 3 months after approval is communicated to the Board.

Thank you for consulting on a revised list and for recommending that the changes be approved by Ministers. We trust that communication of this approval will enable advance notice to be given to dentists and other key stakeholders prior to the new list taking effect.

Yours Sincerely

Hon Jill Hennessy MP
Chair, Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

18 July 2017

cc: Mr Martin Fletcher, CEO, AHPRA: martin.fletcher@ahpra.gov.au