



# SINGAPORE DENTAL COUNCIL

Unique Entity Number (UEN): T08GB0050C  
81 Kim Keat Road, #09-00 NKF Centre, Singapore 328836  
☎ 62533185 ✉ [enquiries@dentalcouncil.gov.sg](mailto:enquiries@dentalcouncil.gov.sg)  
🌐 <http://www.sdc.gov.sg>

Ref SDC 20.2

12 September 2018

TO: ORAL HEALTH THERAPISTS UNDER PART II OF THE REGISTER OF ORAL HEALTH THERAPISTS

## REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS FOR COMPLIANCE BY ORAL HEALTH THERAPISTS (OHTs) UNDER PART II OF THE REGISTER OF ORAL HEALTH THERAPISTS

The Singapore Dental Council would like to draw your attention to the following requirements and conditions that OHTs under Part II of the Register of OHTs must comply with.

### I. Timely Update of Practice or Residential Address and Submission of Supervisor(s) Assessment Report

2 In the course of Council's records review in the Professional Registration System (PRS), Council noted that some OHTs have not duly updated their latest changes to the employment and practice address via PRS. Supervisor(s)' Assessment Reports for some OHTs were also incomplete, especially in cases after OHTs had changed employer / supervisor(s).

3 Council would like to emphasize the importance of timely update on the change of practice address / Supervisor(s) and submission of Assessment Reports by your Supervisor(s). Please remind your Supervisor(s) / Employer that delays and missing reports would affect your future application for conversion from Part II to Part I of the Register for OHTs.

4 Your attention is drawn to sections 13 (7)<sup>1</sup> and section 13 (4)<sup>2</sup> in the Dental Registration Act (Cap 76) [DRA] which states that any person who fails to comply shall be guilty of an offence, shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

### II. Supervision of OHTs under Part II of the Register of OHTs

5 Since 1 January 2017 (ref SDC 8:4 Vol 5, dated 11 Dec 2016), Council has permitted OHT(s) under Part II of the Register of OHTs to work in a maximum of 2 practice addresses. Pursuant to section 21A(4)<sup>3</sup> of the DRA, OHTs under Part II of the Register of OHTs are required to work under supervision of a fully registered dentist in a particular employment approved by the Council at all times. The same employer must seek Council's approval when

<sup>1</sup> Registers

DRA Section 13(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.

<sup>2</sup> Section 13(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.

<sup>3</sup> Persons entitled to be registered as oral health therapists

DRA Section 21A(4) It is a condition of the registration of any person referred to in subsection (2) that he may only practice dentistry under the supervision of a registered dentist whose name appears in the first division of the Register of Dentists.

nominating two supervisors (namely one principal and one secondary) to supervise the OHT across 2 practice addresses. If the said OHT is working for two different employers, there must be four nominated supervisors (two supervisors at each premise).

6 In the event of any change of supervisor(s), you must follow up with your employer to write in and inform Council at least 1 month in advance with the new nominated supervisor(s) CV(s) for Council's consideration and approval. You shall not commence and conduct any dental works under any non-approved supervisor by Council.

### **III. Working without a valid practising certificate**

7 As per sections 22 and section 28<sup>4</sup> of the DRA, it is an offence for Oral Health Therapists to work without a valid Practising Certificate. The first time offender shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$25,000. Council would like to remind all OHTs to renew their PC on time via PRS when the biennial PC renewal exercise commences from 1 October and ends on 31 December 2018.

Yours sincerely,

DR CHNG CHAI KIAT  
REGISTRAR, SINGAPORE DENTAL COUNCIL

(This is a computer-generated notice which requires no signature)

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<sup>4</sup> **Prohibition of practice of dentistry**

**DRA Section 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.

(1A) Subsection (1) shall not apply to any registered oral health therapist who has in force a practising certificate and who practices dentistry in Singapore in accordance with the scope of practice prescribed under section 62.

**General penalty**

**Section 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.