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Dental Implantology

Privilege Requirements

Version 3

Issue date: 10/08/2021

Effective date: 10/08/2021

Health Policies and Standards Department
Health Regulation Sector (2021)

INTRODUCTION

Health Regulation Sector (HRS) forms an integral part of Dubai Health Authority (DHA) and is mandated by DHA Law No. (6) of 2018 to undertake several functions including but not limited to: Developing regulation, policy, standards, guidelines to improve quality and patient safety and promote the growth and development of the health sector.

- Licensure and inspection of health facilities as well as healthcare professionals and ensuring compliance to best practice.
- Managing patient complaints and assuring patient and physician rights are upheld.
- Managing health advertisement and marketing of healthcare products.
- Governing the use of narcotics, controlled and semi-controlled medications.
- Strengthening health tourism and assuring ongoing growth.
- Assuring management of health informatics, e-health and promoting innovation.

The Dental Implantology Privilege Requirements aims to fulfil the following overarching DHA Strategic Objectives and Program within the Dubai Health Strategy (2016–2021):

- **Objective 1:** Position Dubai as a global medical destination by introducing a value-based, comprehensive, integrated and high-quality service delivery system.
- **Objective 2:** Direct resources to ensure happy, healthy and safe environment for Dubai population.
- **Strategic Program 10:** Excellence & Quality, which promotes excellence in healthcare service delivery in Dubai while enhancing patient happiness, experience, satisfaction and trust.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Health Policy and Standards Department (HPSD) developed this Standard in collaboration with Subject Matter Experts. HRS would like to acknowledge and thank these health professionals for their dedication toward improving quality and safety of healthcare services in the Emirate of Dubai.

Health Regulation Sector

Dubai Health Authority

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dubai Health Authority (DHA) is pleased to present the third version of the Dental Implantology Privilege, which focuses on trainee eligibility criteria, implant training courses requirements and the application process to avail a privilege to practice Dental Implantology in the Emirate of Dubai.

The purpose of this document is to assure provision of the highest level of safety and quality of Dental Implantology services within DHA licensed health facilities at all times. The document is developed to keep pace with the evolving healthcare needs and in alignment with current international best practice. Dentist and Dental specialist are eligible to be privileged for dental implantology by DHA except for Dental Radiology and Forensic Dentistry licensing categories.

The Dental Implantology Privilege is aligned with the following DHA documents:

- Continuing Professional Development Guideline
- DHA Health Facility Guidelines
- Guidelines for Clinical Training Facilities
- Guidelines for Patient Consent
- Guidelines For Medical Advertisement Content On Social Media
- Guidelines on Dental Infection Prevention and Safety
- Outpatient care Facilities Regulation
- Scope of Practice and Core Competencies for General Dentists and Dental Specialists.

DEFINITIONS

Continuing Professional Development (CPD): are a range of learning activities through which healthcare professionals maintain and develop their knowledge and skills throughout their career to ensure that they retain their capacity to practice safely, effectively and legally within their evolving scope of practice.

Dental Implant: is a cylindrical and/or tapered post, usually made of titanium that serves as a substitute for the tooth root and provides a strong and sturdy foundation for one or more replacement teeth.

Dental Implantology: is the branch of dental practice pertaining to the restoration and maintenance of oral function, appearance and health of the patient through the replacement of teeth and contiguous structures with endosseous dental implants and associated prosthetic components.

License: A permission granted by an authority to practice a healthcare profession.

Position: The term describing the applicant/ healthcare professional designation, which consist of Category, Title, and Specialty.

Privilege: is the approval endowed to licensed healthcare professionals by DHA to practice certain procedures based on additional qualification or training.

ABBREVIATIONS

CBT	:	Computer Based Testing
CME	:	Continuous Medical Education
CPD	:	Continuing Professional Development
DHA	:	Dubai Health Authority
HRS	:	Health Regulation Sector
PQR	:	Unified Healthcare Professional Qualification Requirements
UAE	:	United Arab Emirates

1. BACKGROUND

Over the past decade, dental implantology has become an indispensable part of mainstream dentistry and has aided dentists improve the quality of oral health and esthetics in patients. A dental implant (endosseous implant or fixture) is a surgical component that interfaces with the bone of the jaw or skull to anchor and support crowns, bridges, dentures and facial prosthesis. The success or failure of dental implants primarily relates to the surgeon's competencies, individual receiving treatment, the extent to which medication affects osseointegration, the amount of stress placed on the implant and general health of surrounding tissues.

The risks and complications related to implant therapy can generally be divided into three areas, namely the surgical risk (for example, excessive bleeding or nerve injury), risk that may occur in the first three-six months (such as infection and failure to osseointegrate) and risk that may occur over the longer term (such as peri-implantitis and mechanical failures). Thus, dentists practising dental implantology require specialized knowledge, clinical skill-set and training in the surgical, prosthetic and after care aspects of the treatment. Health Regulation Sector (HRS) will assess and privilege dentists seeking to provide dental implantology services in Dubai Health Authority (DHA) licensed health facilities.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1. To ensure provision of the highest levels of safety and quality of Dental Implantology services in DHA licensed health facilities.

3. PURPOSE

- 3.1. Ensure Dentists providing the Dental Implantology Service are trained adequately to provide the service.
- 3.2. Ensure Dentists providing the Dental Implantology Service obtain the privilege from DHA to provide this service.
- 3.3. Health Facilities providing Dental Implantology Courses are well equipped and have a structured course to train Dentists.

4. APPLICABILITY

- 4.1. DHA licensed Health Facilities opting to conduct dental implantology training.
- 4.2. DHA licensed healthcare professionals and health facilities providing Dental Implantology services.

5. RECOMMENDATION ONE: HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- 5.1. The Healthcare Professional shall be licensed and permitted by DHA to provide Implantology services.
- 5.2. DHA licensed General Dentist and Dental Specialists, except Dental Radiologists are eligible to apply for dental implantology privilege.
- 5.3. Only Oral Surgeons, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and Periodontists can perform advanced surgeries related to dental implants e.g. sinus lift surgery and advanced bone grafting.
- 5.4. The applicant shall provide one of the following:

- 5.4.1. Proof of completion of a DHA recognized dental implantology course based on the criteria set in this document.
- 5.4.2. Proof that dental Implantology treatment (surgical and prosthetic) was part of their recognized post-graduate specialty program.

6. RECOMMENDATION TWO: CRITERIA FOR IMPLANT TRAINING COURSE ACCEPTANCE

- 6.1. Any implantology course inside or outside the United Arab Emirates (UAE) shall fulfil the below criteria to be accepted by DHA and to ensure qualifying its trainees to apply for the Dental Implantology privilege:

Table 1			
Aspect	Criteria	Under DHA jurisdiction	Outside DHA jurisdiction
Duration	Multi-modular structured program or certificate over a period of not less than 12 month.	✓	✓
Faculty	Speakers: to be experienced and qualified in related field.	✓	✓
	Clinical instructors: to be permitted to practise implantology.	✓ (Professional license as Implantologists)	According to the regulation in the related jurisdiction
Trainees	Completed basic dental qualification (BDS, DDS) and Internship program.	✓	✓
	Hold a valid professional license during hand-on component of the course	✓ • New applicant: "Trainee" license. • DHA Licensed professional: valid	According to the regulation in the related jurisdiction

		full time/part-time license.	
Curriculum	<p>Developed in collaboration/Affiliation with dental academic institution (courses developed by individuals shall not be accepted).</p> <p>The course should be comprehensive with both theoretical and practical parts covering the following subjects as minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basics head and neck anatomy • Principles of diagnosis and treatment planning • Radiographic techniques and interpretation • Principles of surgical dental implantology • Principles of prosthetic dental implantology • Basics periodontology in relation to implant dentistry • Applied pharmacology • Human disease relevant to implant dentistry • Medico legal aspects in dental implantology treatment 	✓	✓
Setting	Clinical training conducted in a health facility or dental college	DHA licensed health facility with	Academic institution approved by

		“Implantology Training service”	regulatory authority in the related jurisdiction
Supervision ratio	Supervisor: Trainee ratio of 1:1 for practical component on patients	✓	According to the accreditation system in the related jurisdiction
Placed dental Implants	<p>The course should cover placing a minimum of 30 dental implants per trainee on multiple patients with different complexities documented in a signed logbook¹:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single (anterior and posterior, upper and lower jaws) • Multiple implants in a single jaw (unilateral and bilateral, upper and lower jaws) • Full arch and full mouth restorations. • The surgical procedure could also include bone graft and sinus lifting. 	✓	✓
Consent Form	The training facility should ensure that all patients have signed an informed consent form before initiating the treatment and to mention that the offered service is a part of training course. Continuity of care and follow-up of patients shall be maintained.	✓	According to the regulation in the related jurisdiction

¹ Must include patients’ details, replaced teeth number, implant type and diameter (implant reference tag) and steps with dates of each. Documentation with intra-oral photographs & x-ray must also be maintained.

7. RECOMMENDATION THREE: HEALTH FACILITY APPLICATION PROCESS FOR IMPLANTOLOGY TRAINING

7.1. DHA licensed Health facilities opting to conduct Dental Implantology training (theory & clinical) in their premises shall ensure the following:

7.1.1. Apply to for clinical training services if requirements from Table 1 are met.

7.1.2. Fill and submit application to Medical Education and Research Department (MERD) - DHA to review the course details and curriculum.

7.1.3. Once the course approved from MERD, the health facility should apply via the online licensing system (Sheryan) to add Clinical Training to the facility license through **“Amend Facility License service –Add-ons”** service, uploading all supportive documents and MERD approval

7.1.4. All submitted applications will be subject to on-site inspection before obtaining final approval from HRS.

7.1.5. Once the Clinical Training service permission is issued, the health facility must ensure that all trainees joining the training course are licensed under the health facility as a “trainee” or “full/part time” dentist.

7.2. Training centre opting to conduct Dental Implantology Training (theory part only) in Dubai while the clinical training is taking part outside the city shall ensure the following:

7.2.1. Fill and submit application to Medical Education and Research Department (MERD) - DHA to review the course details and curriculum.

a. Both theoretical and clinical components of the course should be submitted for MERD review.

- b. The applicant may require obtaining further approval from Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA).

8. **RECOMMENDATION FOUR:** HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL APPLICATION PROCESS FOR IMPLANTOLOGY PRIVILEGE

- 8.1. Completing the approved Implantology course successfully does not allowed the healthcare professional to practise Implantology. The healthcare professional will only be entitled once the privilege is added to his/her license.
- 8.2. Application should be submitted via the online Licensing system (Sheryan) along with valid Good Standing Certificate and a copy of recent Implantology Logbook (not older than 2 years).
- 8.3. All professionals have to pass the required Computer Based Testing (CBT) assessment.
- 8.4. The training course certificate shall be verified along with other required documents.
- 8.5. Dentists who have a gap of their clinical implant practice and wish to obtain the licensed privilege; must fulfil the Gap of practice requirement as set in the Unified Healthcare Professional Qualification Requirements (PQR) document, which are as follows:
- 8.5.1. CME points required credits in implantology
- 8.5.2. Implantology logbook for at least 30 cases in approved training facilities under direct supervision of a licensed Implantologists, which will be subject to DHA review and approval.

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