Appendix 5

Dental Board of Australia. Registration Guideline. Conscious Sedation Area of Practice Endorsement.

REGISTRATION GUIDELINE
Conscious Sedation Area of Practice Endorsement

Authority
This Guideline has been developed by the Dental Board of Australia (the Board) under section 39 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act (National Law) as in force in each state and territory.

Purpose
A Registration Standard for Endorsement in relation to conscious sedation (the Standard) was developed by the Board and approved by Ministerial Council on 31 March 2010. The Standard establishes the requirements of the Board in relation to an endorsement in relation to conscious sedation for dentists. This Guideline provides further detail for registrants in relation to the requirements of the Standard.

Dentists have 12 months (after the date that the state or territory became a participating jurisdiction) to comply with all requirements of the Board’s Registration Standard. For all states and territories except Western Australia (WA) the date is 1 July 2011, for WA the date is 16 October 2011.

Background
Before the introduction of the National Law, some jurisdictions in Australia had established processes to give approval for dentists to practise conscious sedation. In other jurisdictions there was no formal approval process but dentists were expected to follow the standards set out in the publications of the peak body, the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) which covered requirements in terms of staff, facilities and equipment for the provision of safe conscious sedation for dental procedures. In particular the Professional Standards document PS9 and PS21 (2003), published jointly by the ANZCA and the Royal College of Dental Surgeons (RACDS) were the publications to be followed.

Dentists (in some jurisdictions) were also required to have successfully completed training that was appropriate to the type of sedation techniques used and in New South Wales were required to refresh particular aspects of training annually.

Summary of Guideline
The Board has developed this Guideline to further set out:

1. the requirements of the Board’s Standard for endorsement for conscious sedation;
2. which dentists are eligible to apply for endorsement; and
3. the process of application and the renewal requirements.

1. Requirements for endorsement

Application for endorsement
To be eligible to apply for the endorsement on registration, applicants must:

a) be registered as a dentist
b) have a minimum of two years of general dental experience (either within Australia or overseas)
c) have successfully completed the following training
Graduate Diploma in Clinical Dentistry (Conscious Sedation and Pain Control) awarded by the University of Sydney; or

Equivalent training as determined by the Board.

d) have current knowledge of published guidelines and meet the requirements of the Professional Standards document PS9 (2010) published jointly by ANZCA and RACDS. Applicants must meet the requirements of the PS9 except as set out in the Board’s Registration Standard (note (e) below).

TO NOTE: Dentists applying to become endorsed to provide conscious sedation must have a manual (based on the documents referred to above and any other relevant publications) setting out the conscious sedation protocols and procedures used in that practice.

e) ensure that when they undertake conscious sedation they are assisted by another person who is either:

- a registered nurse who has received training in intensive care have current knowledge of published guidelines and requirements of the peak body for anaesthesia in Australia; or
- a registered dentist appropriately trained in the observation and monitoring of sedated patients.

2 Evaluating who is eligible for Endorsement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>On Register at 30 June 2010</th>
<th>Endorsed for Conscious Sedation in state or territory</th>
<th>Approved Qualification</th>
<th>12 months to comply with Registration Standard</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓ NSW</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Compliant with NSW requirements at 30 June 2010</td>
<td>Automatic transition to endorsement “Endorsed conscious sedation practitioner”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓ other states and territories</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Automatic endorsement but must apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓ x</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Automatic endorsement but must apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Apply for endorsement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Apply for endorsement &amp; qualifications will be evaluated by Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Apply for endorsement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Not eligible to apply for endorsement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To be eligible for the conscious sedation endorsement after this transition period, new applicants (not on the register at 30 June 2010) must have successfully completed the Graduate Diploma (or equivalent qualification – see below) and have a minimum of two years of general dental experience (either within Australia or overseas).

Equivalent qualifications - Applications where the dentist has alternative training/qualification will be assessed by the Board to determine whether or not the alternative training/qualification is equivalent to the Graduate Diploma in Clinical Dentistry (Conscious Sedation and Pain Control) awarded by the University of Sydney.

3 Renewal of Endorsement

To maintain and renew endorsement to practise conscious sedation dentists must at renewal (which is processed at the same time as renewal of general registration):
a) Provide evidence that they have successfully attended and completed a Board approved course in the last 12 months in the following areas:

- Dental sedation
- Medical emergencies – CPR

*see the Board’s website for Board approved courses.

b) Confirm they comply with the requirements of the Board’s Standard, which includes:

i) current knowledge of published guidelines and meet the requirements of the Professional Standards document PS9 (2010) published jointly by ANZCA and RACDS. Applicants must meet the requirements of the PS9 except as set out in the Board’s Standard (note below).

**TO NOTE:** Dentists renewing their endorsement to practise conscious sedation **must** verify that they have a manual (based on the documents referred to above and any other relevant publications) setting out the conscious sedation protocols and procedures used in that practice.

ii) Ensuring that when they undertake conscious sedation they are assisted by another person who is either:

   (a) a registered nurse who has received training in intensive care and have current knowledge of published guidelines and requirements of the peak body for anaesthesia in Australia or

   (b) a registered dentist appropriately trained in the observation and monitoring of sedated patients

**Ongoing jurisdictional requirements**

The Standard requires that dentists adhere to State and Territory jurisdictional requirements. Dentists with an endorsement for conscious sedation must be aware of any specific jurisdictional requirements in all jurisdictions in which they undertake conscious sedation.

**Definitions**

**Conscious sedation** – means a drug-induced depression of consciousness during which patients respond purposefully to verbal commands, either alone or accompanied by tactile stimulation. No interventions are required to maintain a patient airway and spontaneous ventilation is adequate. Cardiovascular function is usually maintained.

**Review**

This Guideline will commence on 29 October 2010. The Board will review this Guideline at least every three years.
REFERENCES


Weaver J. The narcotic or the benzodiazepine – which should be given first for IV conscious sedation. Anaesth Prog 2002;48:123-4.

1998;45:2138-41.