ADVISORY

Dated the 2 June, 2020

To,
1. The Principal/Dean of all the Dental Colleges in the Country.
2. The Registrar of all the universities affiliating dental institutions in the country.
3. The Principal Secretary (Medical Education/Health & Family Welfare) of all State/UT Governments.
4. The Directors of Medical Education Departments of all State/UT’s.

Subject: Advisory on holding UG and PG Examination-2020 by the Dental Colleges/Universities and to appoint External Examiner.

As we all are aware that the country, now a days is facing with COVID-19 pandemic situation and with an unprecedented public health crisis. The Dental Council of India is in receipt of various representations from different professional associations and universities expressing their difficulties in holding the examination at both UG and PG levels during this period and also in getting appointed their External Examiner for practical/viva-voce examination due to restriction in travel imposed due to current pandemic situation.

2. With regard to the Theory Examinations, the Council is of its considered vie:u: that without deviating from the existing provisions for the purpose and also maintaining the uniform standard of examination, the Colleges/Universities shall conduct their theory examinations both for UG and PG strictly in accordance with the norms prescribed by the DCI. But, these theory examinations shall be conducted by such institutions and universities with their due compliance of the advisories, guidelines, instructions, etc. issued by the Government of India, respective State Government and District Administration, from time to time so as to prevent from spreading COVID-19. Dental Colleges/Universities are advised to complete their PG exam process by July, 2020.

3. As per Scheme of clinical and practical BDS Examination, as contemplated/prescribed in the existing Revised BDS Course Regulation, 2007, the practical and clinical examinations should be evaluated by two examiners of which one shall be an external examiner appointed from other universities preferably outside the State. Each candidate should be evaluated by each examiner independently and marks computed at the end of the examination. Similarly, for MDS clinical and practical examination, Regulation 19 of the Dental Council of India, Master of Dental Surgery Course Regulations, 2017, inter-alia, provides for four examiners in each subject. Out of them, two (50%) shall be external examiners and two (50%) shall be internal examiners. Both external examiners shall be from a university other than the affiliating university and one examiner shall be from a university of different State.

4. Since, the Dentistry is clinical and skill oriented profession and involves the patient care, therefore, all the institutions/universities shall make its best efforts to make available the flow of patients to assess the skill and clinical expertise of a student. But, during the clinical and practical examination of the student, the Dental Institution/universities shall comply with all COVID-19 protocols on infection control and patient care. However, certain clinical procedures which lead to generate aerosol, can be substituted by using hand instruments, air-motor or micro-motor equipments, but, again with due compliance of the advisories, guidelines, instructions, etc. issued by the Government of India, respective State Government and District Administration, from time to time.

5. In so far as, the appointment of External Examiner for both UG and PG Examination are concerned, all the dental institutions/universities shall, in the 1st instance to adhere to the existing norms in this regard. However, in case it is not feasible for the institution/university to comply with the regulation, the dental institutions/universities are advised to follow one of the following options with respect to External Examiners for both UG and PG examinations considering the risk stratification of the areas wherein in Dental Colleges/Institutions are located, if external examiner(s) from outside State are not available due to the pandemic.

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(i) External Examiner(s) to be selected from a different University in the State with their compulsory physical presence at the venue of the examinations.

(ii) In case option (i) above is not possible, one of the two External Examiners to be selected from a different University, who would be physically present at the venue of the examinations and the second External Examiner from another different University outside the State who would participate through video-conferencing.

(iii) If option (ii) is also not possible, both the External Examiners may participate through video-conferencing.

6. Further, this advisory is a one-time measure for the current UG and PG Examinations to be held in 2020 only in view of the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic.

2. This issues with the prior approval of the Government of India vide its letter No. V.12025/52/2020-DE (FTS:8061743) dated 02.06.2020.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Sabyasachi Saha)
Secretary
Dental Council of India

Copy for information to:
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(Dr. Sabyasachi Saha)
Secretary
Dental Council of India

CC:
1. The President, DCI
2. The Server Section, Dental Council of India, New Delhi – for email