

Press Release of The Dental Council of Hong Kong

Dental Council of Hong Kong welcomes the passage of the Dentists Registration (Amendment) Bill 2024

The Dental Council of Hong Kong (“the Council”) is delighted to note that the Dentists Registration (Amendment) Bill 2024 (“the Bill”) was passed at the Legislative Council (“LegCo”) today (10 July 2024).

The Bill introduced into the LegCo to create new pathways for admitting qualified non-locally trained dentists to practise in Hong Kong, introduce an internship programme for local dental graduates and a period of assessment for non-locally trained dentists to enrich their clinical experience, as well as update the regulatory regime for dental hygienists and dental therapists while retitling the relevant workers as dental care professionals (“DenCPs”). The Bill also specifies continuing professional development as a mandatory requirement for dentists and DenCPs in a bid to maintain their professional competencies, and revamp the composition and structure of the Council to cater for the additional statutory functions. Furthermore, the Bill makes other technical amendments to bring the regulatory regime up-to-date.

The amendments will come into operation on the day(s) to be appointed by the Secretary for Health by notice published in the Gazette. The Council will announce relevant details including application for the various types of registration of dentist in Hong Kong in due course.

The Council views the passage of the Bill as a significant milestone for the dental profession in Hong Kong. The Council remains resolute to fulfilling its statutory functions and providing unwavering support for the successful implementation of the new initiatives.

10 July 2024