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-2021 by the Dental Colleges/Universities and to appoint External Examiner.

This is regarding the difficulties being faced in conducting the examinations in UG/PG dental courses, due to the prevailing pandemic. Many teachers are unwillingness to be the examiners. Consequently, the final year examination of UG/PG Dental Courses, are being delayed in many dental institutions.

2. Accordingly, the Executive Committee of the DCI, by circulation, on 28.4.2021 has decided that the Colleges/Universities shall conduct their theory examinations for both UG and PG strictly in accordance with the norms prescribed by the DCI without deviating from the existing provisions for the purpose and also maintaining the uniform standard of examination. 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. No specific time frame is prescribed for the examination. The examination shall be conducted at suitable time as and the normalcy in the respective State/District is restored.

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 load 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. Besides, the DCI has decided to permit the examiners as per following options:-

   (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, the concerned Universities may decide the time and the method of Examination taking into consideration the pandemic situation in their area.

7. Accordingly, all the Universities /State Governments, under their prerogative, after making comprehensive assessment of university location and diversity of the colleges, their level of preparedness, residential status of the students, status of COVID-19 pandemic spread in different regions / state and other factors, shall chart out a plan for the examinations.

Contd...
8. However, the respective University / State Govt. may take up the matter with the Dental Council of India only if it considers it absolutely necessary to grant specific relaxation on case to case basis. If any student, Association / Society, Colleges etc. desires to make a representation in this regard, they are hereby advised to make the same to the respective State / University.


Yours faithfully,

Encl.: As above.

Copy for information to:

The Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, (Deptt. of Health — PMS Section),
Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi — 110 011

Yours faithfully,

(M.L. Meena)
Officiating Secretary
Dental Council of India

CC:

✓ ARPM Section - for email and website.
To

The Officiating Secretary
Dental Council of India
Kotla Road, Temple Lane,
New Delhi-110002

Sub: Advisory on holding UG & PG examination, 2021 by the Dental Colleges/Universities and appointment of External Examiners.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to DCI's letter No. DE-22-Academic-2021/361 dated 03.05.2021 on the subject mentioned above and to say that the draft advisory has been approved by this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

(Kumar Pranav)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tele: 011-2306 1881