



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
7700 ARLINGTON BOULEVARD
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042

IN REPLY REFER TO
BUMEDINST 1520.37B
BUMED-M00C
24 Nov 2014

BUMED INSTRUCTION 1520.37B

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: NAVY DENTAL OFFICER PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Ref: (a) BUMEDINST 1520.41

Encl: (1) Sample Navy Dental Officer Education Program Change Proposal

1. Purpose. This instruction assigns responsibility for oversight and development of Navy-sponsored dental officer professional education programs via the Navy Dental Officer Professional Education Council (DOPEC). This is a complete revision and must be read in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. BUMEDINST 1520.37A.

3. Scope. Applies to ships and stations having dental personnel.

4. Background

a. Secretary of the Navy and senior Navy line leadership have consistently supported Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) and Chief, Navy Dental Corps' belief that strong professional educational programs are required to obtain new knowledge and maintain the skills of our people. To ensure resources are maximized for appropriate, timely, and high quality Navy dental educational programs, a coordinated policy development and decision-making process must include students, educators, and resource sponsors.

b. Establishing, maintaining, and applying standards that ensure the quality and continuous improvement of dental education is a primary goal within Navy Medicine. This is achieved through use of accrediting bodies or via self-assessment protocols.

c. The Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) of the American Dental Association (ADA) has a voluntary, but highly recognized and widely used process of accreditation of advanced specialty programs. The process of accreditation assures students, specialty boards, and the public that accredited programs comply with published community standards. CODA offers accreditation to any institution offering acceptable programs that are recognized by the ADA.

5. Policy

a. BUMED policy is that programs training Navy Dental residents will meet or exceed CODA accreditation standards. Navy dental residents trained in the following specialty areas, whether military or civilian must be accredited by CODA:

(1) Advanced Specialty Education Programs

- (a) Dental Public Health
- (b) Endodontics
- (c) Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- (d) Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
- (e) Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology
- (f) Orthodontics
- (g) Pediatric Dentistry
- (h) Periodontics
- (i) Prosthodontics
- (j) Maxillofacial Prosthetics

(2) Postdoctoral General Dentistry Education Programs

- (a) Advanced Education in General Dentistry
- (b) General Practice Residency
- (c) Comprehensive Dentistry
- (d) Oral Medicine
- (e) Orofacial Pain

(3) Clinical Fellowship Training Programs. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Fellowships.

(a) Operative dentistry programs must comply with accreditation standards as set by the American Board of Operative Dentistry.

(b) The Advanced Clinical Program in Exodontia is evaluated and assessed by the Specialty Leader for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) based on appropriate accreditation guidelines as applicable within the OMS specialty.

6. Responsibilities

a. All roles and responsibilities concerning postgraduate dental education programs are delineated in reference (a).

b. Participants in Navy Dental Officer Education Programs development are encouraged to submit proposals for dental education program changes. Proposals, following enclosure (1), should be submitted to the Chair, DOPEC at the following address:

Dean
Attn: Chair, Dental Officer Professional Education Council
Navy Postgraduate Dental School
Navy Medicine Professional Development Center
8955 Wood Road
Bethesda, MD 20889-5628

7. DOPEC. This council reports to the Chief, Navy Dental Corps and serves as the principal forum for developing changes to policy or guidelines governing Navy dental officer professional education programs. These programs include: Advanced Specialty Education Programs, Postdoctoral General Dentistry Education Programs, Clinical Fellowship Training Programs, or any dental continuing education course, workshop, or program presented for other than local command participants as in-service training.

a. Permanent Membership

(1) Dean, Naval Postgraduate Dental School (NPDS), Navy Medicine Professional Development Center (NMPDC) Chair

(2) Head Dental Corps Programs Division, NMPDC (Code 03CDC)

(3) Deputy Chief, Dental Corps (BUMED-M00C2A)

(4) Head, Dental Corps Assignments (Medical Officer Assignments, Navy Personnel Command)

(5) Dental Corps Career Planner

(6) Chair, Education Resources Department (NPDS-11) (Recorder)

b. Permanently Assigned Leaders (Ad hoc)

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- (1) All BUMED Dental Corps specialty leaders
- (2) All dental education program directors
- (3) Dental Corps Assignments

c. Functions

(1) Monitors and coordinates action to implement those aspects of the Dental Corps' strategic plan that address dental officer professional education to maximize resources, and ensure appropriateness and quality of all Navy-sponsored courses of instruction.

(2) Initiates, reviews, and evaluates dental officer professional education policy proposals, including all proposals to establish, disestablish, or modify the curriculum or operational conduct of any Navy dental education program.

(3) Coordinates dental education policy proposals with appropriate naval dental center and naval hospital commanding officers, and BUMED specialty leaders.

(4) Monitors actions taken to implement approved DOPEC recommendations.

(5) Meets quarterly and forwards minutes of such meetings to BUMED-M00C2.

8. Records. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, shall be managed per SECNAV M-5210.1 of January 2012.



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Distribution is electronic only via the Navy Medicine Web site at:

<http://www.med.navy.mil/directives/Pages/BUMEDInstructions.aspx>

**SAMPLE NAVY DENTAL OFFICER EDUCATION PROGRAM
CHANGE PROPOSAL**

1. Program:
2. Site:
3. Point of Contact:
4. Date:
5. Proposal: (Short title for this proposal.)
6. Issue: (Why is this recommended as an issue?)
7. Problems: (What are the reasons a change is proposed?)
8. Background: (What is the historical context?)
9. Alternatives Considered: (How this issue could be addressed?) For each, include the positive and negative impacts on:
 - a. Requirements (billets, manpower, funds).
 - b. Service needs.
 - c. Other training programs.
 - d. Current and future trainees.
 - c. Detailing process.
 - d. Accreditation.
 - e. In-service and out service programs.
 - f. Faculty profile requirements.
10. Action Recommended: (Which alternative should be chosen and why?)
11. Implementation Plan: (What is the proposed plan of action and milestones?)

Signature

Enclosure (1)