

## CIRCULAR NO (DHP/2023/104)

<b>From</b>	Department of Healthcare Professions / Ministry of Public Health/Qatar.
<b>To</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All specialized dentists in the governmental/semi-governmental/private sectors in State of Qatar.</li><li>• All Healthcare Facilities in the governmental/semi-governmental/private sectors in State of Qatar.</li></ul>
<b>Subject</b>	Updates on registration and licensing policy for Oral and maxillofacial surgery scope of practice.
<b>Date</b>	29 October 2023

### “Greetings from the Department of Healthcare Professions.”

Adhering to the priorities and the continuous efforts of the Department of Healthcare Professions to upgrade the level of healthcare services in all healthcare sectors and to provide the sectors with qualified and competent healthcare practitioners, DHP has determined to revise the registration and licensing policy for “Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery” scope of practice, based on the decision of the Permanent Licensing Committee in its meeting No. (2), which was held on 28/08/2023.

As per the revised policy attached, licensed OMFS Specialists are directly entitled to basic privileges. However, they are not directly entitled to the advanced privileges unless applied for via DHP.

Please note the following:

- This policy is effective from the issue date of this circular.
- This policy cancels previous policies in this regard.

**We thank you for your cooperation**

**Registration Department / Department of Healthcare Professions**

For further information, kindly contact:

DHP Registration: [dhpregistration@moph.gov.qa](mailto:dhpregistration@moph.gov.qa)

## Updates on registration and licensing policy for Oral and maxillofacial surgery scope of practice.

### Introduction:

In keeping with the instructions of the expert committee panel of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery proposal and DHP management, and as part of DHP vision and mission to improve the healthcare services provided in all healthcare sectors in dentistry in alignment with the highest medical & quality standards, a revision to the registration/licensing process for Oral and maxillofacial surgery scope of practice was established.

Criteria	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Definition:	Oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMFS) is a specialty of dentistry, which includes the diagnosis, surgical and adjunctive treatment of diseases, injuries and defects involving both the functional and esthetic aspects of the hard and soft tissues of the oral and maxillofacial region. *
Licensing Requirements:	<p>Healthcare practitioners applying for Specialist in OMFS will be evaluated based on the DHP guidelines, and only holders from the DHP approved specialty qualifications will be accepted.</p> <p><u>Education and training:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Primary qualification (mandatory) - recognized undergraduate dental degree (DDS/BDS/ DMD or its equivalent).</li> <li>2. DHP approved OMFS specialty qualifications with not less than three years clinical training program.</li> </ol> <p><u>Work experience requirements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work experience of minimum 3 years, including minimum of one year of hospital experience.</li> <li>• Surgical logbook for the last three years of experience.</li> </ul> <p>This is applicable to all new applicants (overseas as well as QID holders) from all the categories in the DHP approved specialty qualifications list.</p> <p>Once the OMFS specialists are licensed, they will be entitled to basic privileges. However, they must apply for advanced privileges in OMFS which will be determined by the expert committee nominated by DHP.</p>
Privileges:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral &amp; maxillofacial specialty Privileges are divided into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>A) Basic non-core privileges</u> (granted automatically to licensed OMFS specialists):</li> <li>1. Extraction of teeth &amp; retained roots/pathology and management of associated complications including Oro-antral fistula.</li> <li>2. Management of impacted teeth; management of complications.</li> <li>3. Periapical surgeries.</li> <li>4. Dental implant surgery – performing dental implants with sinus lifts and ridge augmentation procedures.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Facial trauma surgery (facial bone fractures and related soft tissue injuries).</li> <li>6. Pre-prosthetic surgery – removal of high frenal attachments, sharp bones, denture granulomas, fibrous maxillary tuberosities, and maxillary and mandibular tori.</li> <li>7. Pre-orthodontic surgery – removal of high frenal attachments and surgical exposure of impacted teeth.</li> <li>8. Orofacial pain management- including Temporomandibular Joint Disorder (TMJD).</li> <li>9. Treatment of intra-oral benign cystic lesions of hard and soft tissues</li> <li>10. Intraoral and labial biopsy techniques</li> <li>11. Management of Oral &amp; Maxillofacial Infections</li> <li>12. Management of benign salivary gland diseases by intra oral techniques and familiarity with diagnosis and treatment of other salivary gland diseases.</li> </ol> <p><u>B) Advanced privileges (to be applied for, and granted by the expert committee):</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Orthognathic surgery including snoring and sleep apnea correction surgery.</li> <li>2. Reconstructive surgery of the face except free flap surgery.</li> <li>3. Congenital oral and maxillofacial deformities, including cleft lip and palate surgery.</li> <li>4. Facial plastic surgery (related to bone reconstruction cases in oral and maxillofacial region only) *</li> <li>5. Benign oral and maxillofacial tumor surgery (non- reconstructive).</li> <li>6. Botox and filler application for therapeutic purposes.</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensed OMFS Specialists are directly entitled to basic privileges.</li> <li>• Licensed OMFS Specialists are not directly entitled to the advanced privileges unless applied for via DHP.</li> </ul>
Requirements for Changing Scope of Practice to OMFS Specialty:	Changing scope of practice from licensed Oral Surgery Specialist to OMFS Specialist will be granted based on DHP guidelines for dentists.
Requirements for Evaluation & Registration:	(Refer to DHP requirements for license Registration/Evaluation) <a href="http://www.qchp.org.qa/en/Pages/HowToRegisterToPracticeInQatar.aspx">http://www.qchp.org.qa/en/Pages/HowToRegisterToPracticeInQatar.aspx</a>
Application Procedure for Advanced Privileges in OMFS:	<p>Submit a manual Dental Privileges application (two copies) to DHP with the requirements below (refer to guidelines for dentists for further information):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Official Request letter (cover letter) from the place of work, signed &amp; stamped by the medical director specifying the requested privileges, with the employment details.</li> <li>2. Dental Privileges Form for the requested scope filled, signed, and stamped by the applicant and the medical director of the facility.</li> <li>3. Personal Declaration Form.</li> </ol>

4. Copy of updated Curriculum Vitae (C.V.).
5. **Copy of bachelor's degree or equivalent.**
6. Copy of postgraduate degrees or equivalent (if applicable).
7. Copy of training certificate/courses attended in the requested privilege.
8. Personal Declaration for Dental Privileges (available on the DHP website in the dental privilege section).
9. Surgical Logbook for the requested procedure.
10. Any documents required to support the application that are not mentioned above must be submitted upon request.

Important Notes:

- Only Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) Specialists Licensed inside Qatar can apply for advanced Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery privileges.
- Licensed Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) Specialists can perform all core privileges for General Dentists and basic Privileges of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery only, however, they are not allowed to perform advanced privileges in OMFS unless they apply for it via DHP.
- Application for advanced privileges will be submitted to the expert committee for further evaluation and final decision.
- This revised policy cancels the previous policies and circulars in this regard.
- For further information regarding re-evaluation, transfer, under G.A. applications, and additional place of work, please refer to [Guidelines for dentists](#).