

CIRCULAR NO (DHP/2025/14)

From	Department of Healthcare Professions - Ministry of Public Health
To	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All Dentists in all healthcare sectors in the State of Qatar.All Healthcare Facilities/Focal Points in all healthcare sectors in the State of Qatar.
Subject	Updates on registration/licensing of restorative speciality.
Date	21 October 2025

Greetings from the Department of Healthcare Professions.

As part of DHP continuous endeavour to standardise and organise the registration and licensing processes in alignment with international measurements, it has been decided to introduce a new policy for the registration/licensing of restorative speciality dentists. This policy mainly aims to define the privileges for restorative speciality dentists and thereby abridge the registration pathway for dentists applying for this scope of practice.

The following should be noted in the annexed policy regarding the currently licensed general dentists holding postgraduate degrees in restorative speciality:

- Dentists who have the required previous licensed experience in the speciality based on their degree category and are not in break from practice in the speciality: are eligible to apply directly for a change of scope to restorative specialists, providing change of scope requirements (in addition to the restorative speciality qualifying exam for category 3-degree holders).
- Dentists who have the required previous licensed experience in the speciality based on their degree category but are in break from practice in the speciality: they have a grace period of one year from the date of issuance of this circular to change their scope of practice to restorative specialists through one of the following options (in addition to the restorative speciality qualifying exam for category 3-degree holders):
 - A- WA-Work outside Qatar and provide the required logbook.
 - B- Change scope to assistant specialist, irrespective of QID sponsorship, and provide the required logbook.
 - C- Apply for Privileges as per DHP guidelines and work with it to provide the required logbook.
- Dentists who lack the required previous licensed experience in the speciality based on their degree category: they are not eligible to apply for a change of scope to restorative specialist by providing the logbook requirement as a substitute for experience, and they must provide the required years of licensed experience in the speciality as per their degree category..

For further details, please refer to the annexed policy.

Please note the following:

- This policy is effective from the date of issuance.
- This policy replaces all related policies and procedures.

Attachments:

Policy on Updates on Registration/Licensing of Restorative Speciality.

Thank you for your cooperation, Department of Healthcare Professions.

For further information, kindly contact DHP Registration: dhpregistration@moph.gov.qa

Thank you for your cooperation,

Policy name: Update on registration / licensing of Restorative specialists

Version Number:

Developed by: DHP-Registration Team

Reviewed by: Dentist Registration Team.

Approved by: Registration Manager / Department of Healthcare Profession's Director.

Date Effective:

Validity: This policy is the main and valid policy until updated, replaced or cancelled by the department of healthcare professionals. Updates, replacements or cancellations of this policy may occur when needed. However, all healthcare practitioners and parties shall comply with this policy.

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DHP/Registration section: DHPregistration@moph.gov.qa

1. Introduction: In order to improve the efficiency of the registration/licencing process while ensuring patient safety, and to comply with internationally standardised scope of clinical practice in dentistry, and maintain the quality of healthcare services, it has been decided to introduce dental privileges/procedures for the restorative speciality.

2. Policy Statement: Restorative speciality will be granted to eligible dentists after fulfilling all the requirements as per DHP guidelines and regulations, and they will be able to practise the auto-granted procedures\privileges in their respective speciality.

3. Definitions:

- 3.1 **Restorative speciality:** A speciality for dental treatment of patients that includes repairing and restoring damaged, decayed, or partially\completely missing teeth to improve function, aesthetics, and oral health. It encompasses various areas of dentistry such as endodontics, prosthodontics, operative and periodontics.
- 3.2 **Dental procedure\privilege:** refers to any treatment or intervention performed by a dentist or dental specialist to diagnose, restore, or maintain oral health.
- 3.3 **Dental specialist:** A licenced dentist who has completed additional education and training in a specific area of dentistry beyond general dental practice. Dental specialists focus on diagnosing, treating, and managing complex oral health conditions related to their expertise.
- 3.4 **Core privileges:** The clinical procedures within a speciality that any licenced Dentist (General/Specialist) can perform, which are automatically granted upon licencing.
- 3.5 **Non-core privileges:** The clinical procedures within a speciality that any licenced specialist is automatically granted upon licencing within their speciality, and any licenced dentist with special training courses or postgraduate degree, special skills, and experiences in the speciality can apply and attain through DHP regulations.

4. Abbreviations:

- 4.1 **DHP:** Department of Healthcare Professions.
- 4.2 **GD:** General Dentist.
- 4.3 **PSV:** Primary Source Verification.

5. Scope:

This policy is an update to circular no. (19-2016), It applies to all dentists\healthcare facilities requesting a restorative speciality licence for their dental practitioner, according to the policies applied by DHP.

6. Guidelines:

Evaluation requirements:

Based on DHP guidelines for dentists, the following are required to be evaluated as restorative specialists::

6.1 Educational requirements: Applicants holding one of the below certificates shall apply for evaluation as restorative specialists provided that their degree complies with DHP Dentists' Approved Speciality Qualifications requirements. The duration of the programme must be not less than 2 years clinical training programme in the speciality.

- Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics
- Conservative Dentistry
- Restorative Dentistry
- Operative Dentistry

Note: Any other related post graduate degree, other than the above mentioned, will be reviewed and considered based on DHP regulations on a case-by-case basis.

6.2 Work experience requirements: A copy of the recent work experience certificates in the respective speciality (with issue date), (according to Table No. "1": Dentists' Approved Speciality Qualifications in the State of Qatar as per DHP circular 19/2024).

6.3 Registration/licence requirements: A copy of valid medical/registration licences accompanying the required years of work experience (if applicable)..

6.4 Primary Source Verification: A copy of the completed PSV report, including all the education, recent work experience and licences documents.

6.5 Speciality exam requirements: The applicant must provide a copy of a valid passing exam result for the restorative specialty DHP qualifying exam via Prometric Company. It is mandatory for holders of postgraduate degrees from category three as per DHP circular 19/2024.

7. Privileges and procedures:

Licensed restorative specialists are eligible to perform the following dental procedures in addition to the core procedures of General Dentists:

- 7.1** Conventional root canal therapy (multi rooted teeth).
- 7.2** Non-surgical retreatment (multi rooted teeth).
- 7.3** Multiple unit fixed prosthesis construction (more than one quadrant at a time).
- 7.4** Ceramic veneer preparation/fabrication.

Notes:

- For additional privileges not listed above, the specialists can apply for non-core privileges as per DHP regulations.
- Any cases/procedures should be clinically assessed thoroughly, and the complicated cases should be referred to the respective specialists.

8. Changing Scope of Practice to Restorative Specialist

Licensed General Dentists (GDs) who hold a postgraduate degree in Restorative Dentistry may apply to change their scope of practice to Restorative Specialist under the following conditions:

8.1 Dentists not in break from Restorative practice

Dentists who are not on break from restorative practice can apply directly for a change of scope to specialists, provided that they meet all requirements based on their degree category

8.2 Dentists in Break from Restorative Practice

Dentists who have the required licensed experience but are currently in break from restorative practice have a one-year grace period from the date of this policy to change their scope through one of the following options:

Option 1: Experience Outside Qatar

- Submit proof of at least eight weeks of licensed practice outside Qatar (can be continuous or interrupted), within the grace period.
- Provide a logbook signed and stamped by the facility, covering the required non-core procedures.
- The experience, health licence covering the experience and logbook should be verified by PSV company.

Option 2: Assistant Specialist Pathway

- Change scope from GD to Assistant Restorative Specialist (irrespective of QID sponsorship).
- Work under supervision for up to 4 months to complete the required logbook, within the grace period.
- Refer to Circular No. DHP/2024/19 for assistant specialist requirements and framework.
- After 4 months, supervision must end, and the dentist must either: Change scope to Specialist or Revert to GD (if requirements are not met).
- All other application requirements must be fulfilled (including passing the qualifying exam for Category 3 degrees).

Option 3: Non-Core Privileges

- Apply for non-core privileges and work with them to complete the logbook within the grace period.

Logbook Requirements:

The logbook must include the following minimum number of complete cases:

- 10 cases: Conventional root canal therapy (multi-rooted teeth)
- 5 cases: Non-surgical retreatment (multi-rooted teeth)
- 4 cases: Multiple unit fixed prosthesis (more than one quadrant)
- 4 cases: Ceramic veneer preparation/fabrication

8.3 Dentists Without Required Experience

- Dentists who lack the required two years of experience (based on degree category) are not eligible to submit a logbook as a substitute for experience.
- They may apply for non-core privileges OR as Assistant Specialists (if applicable) and gain experience accordingly OR fulfil the required experience from outside Qatar verified by PSV company.

9. After the termination of one-year grace period, the logbook as a substitute for experience will not be accepted. Hence, licensed GDs must fulfil the required years of experience in the speciality in order to change their scope to specialist, through one of the following options:

- 9.1. Apply for non-core privilege in the restorative speciality.
- 9.2. Apply as assistant specialist based on QID sponsorship. Please refer to Circular No (DHP/2024/19) for assistant specialist requirements.
- 9.3. Provide the required experience from outside Qatar along with its PSV report.
Please refer to appendix 2 for a flowchart describing all the above points under 8 & 9.

10. Important notes:

- 10.1** All currently licenced restorative specialists can perform the listed non-core privileges.
- 10.2** All dentists who are willing to apply for restorative speciality after the date of issuance of this policy must fulfil the work experience requirements for specialists in the evaluation application in addition to other requirements.
- 10.3** Dentists who were previously granted certain privileges in any other scope may retain these privileges, in addition to the newly added procedures of restorative speciality as per this policy upon changing scope to specialists (Ref. point 7).
- 10.4** The acceptance of a logbook as a substitute for the experience requirement shall be permitted only during the one-year grace period from the date of issuance of this policy.
- 10.5** Assistant specialist holding facility sponsored QID must change their scope to specialist after completion of four months of supervised practice, OR change their scope to GDs if they did not fulfil the required logbook.
- 10.6** General dentists licenced before 15 March 2023, who are entitled to perform ceramic veneers, may provide a logbook including the required number of ceramic veneer cases from their previous experience upon change scope of practice to specialists based on their post graduate degree, in addition to the other procedures.
- 10.7** The provided logbook must be in DHP template. Please refer to Appendix 1.
- 10.8** Periodic Audits will be held by DHP for licenced restorative specialist clinical practice; any malpractice or misconduct will lead to disciplinary decisions against the practitioner and/or the facility.
- 10.9** Exit/Entry reports from the Ministry of interior will be required on case-by-case basis, any discrepancies found in the logbook will lead to disciplinary decisions against the practitioner.

11. Related policies & circulars:

- 11.1** Guidelines for dentists.
- 11.2** Break in Practice Policy.
- 11.3** Circular No (DHP/2024/19)- Updates on Dental Specialties Registration/Licencing.
- 11.4** Circular No (DHP/2024/13). Launching the electronic application for surgical/dental privileges through the Department of Healthcare Professions' Registration/Licencing System.
- 11.5** Circular (19-2016) - Updates on the Policy of Speciality Qualifications in the Endodontics & Restorative Fields in Dentistry.
- 11.6** Circular No (DHP/2024/15) - Update regarding "Assistant Speciality" and "GP(Supervised)" categories under physicians' profession and "GD (supervised)" category.
- 11.7** Institutional Privileges policy.

12. Appendix 1:

Logbook* template for Assistant Speciality

Date:

This is to certify that the healthcare practitioner _____ Licence Number _____ is currently working at (facility name) _____ under supervision of Dr _____, Licence Number _____ / Speciality _____, from date _____ to date _____

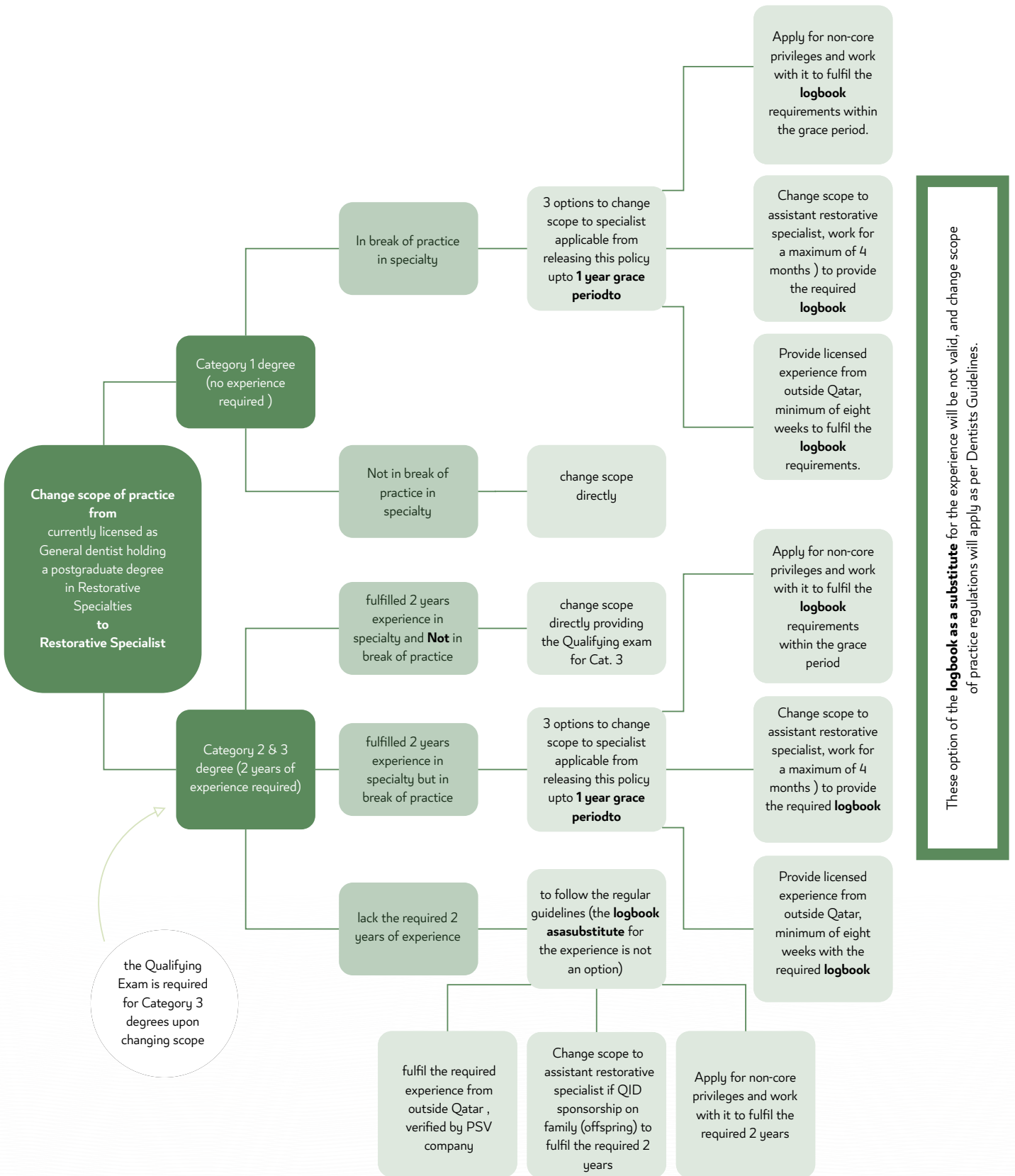
Patient Name	File No	Diagnosis	Procedure	Date of Procedure	Supervisor Signature	Assistant Speciality Signature

Medical Director Signature

Facility Stamp

13. Appendix 2:

Flowchart showing the pathway for Restorative speciality Change scope of practice applications applicable during the 1-year grace period (as per Point 8).



14. References:

- Conservative Dentistry | Eastman Dental Institute - UCL
- A Guide to Good Endodontic Practice
- Overseas Registration Examination - General Dental Council
- Overseas registration exam in dentistry: all you need to know
- Clinical standard for restorative dentistry - NHS England
- Dentistry degrees | UCL Faculty of Medical Sciences - UCL – University ...
- Conservative Dentistry MSc | Prospective Students Graduate - UCL ...ORE, LDS, and eligibility to practice dentistry in the UK
- <https://www.gdc-uk.org/education-cpd/dental-education/quality-assurance/speciality-curricula/restorative-dentistry>
- <https://www.bda.org/advice/career-hub/speciality-training/restorative-dentistry/>
- <https://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG19>
- <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/B1640-clinical-standard-restorative-dentistry.pdf>
- https://www.dentalcouncil.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/ICSTD-manual-2017_final.pdf
- <https://www.dentalcouncil.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Checklist-Restoration.pdf>
- <https://www.dha.gov.ae/uploads/112021/8fcf37ff-d241-4001-abfe-2d935d7207e3.pdf>
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- <https://www.dha.gov.ae/en/licensing-regulations-dental>