



Circular No. (14/2020)

From	Department of Healthcare Professions /Ministry of Public Health
To	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All Dentists in the state of Qatar (Governmental/Private Sector)All Healthcare Facilities focal points in the state of Qatar (Governmental/Private sector)
Subject	Approval of “Orofacial Pain” scope within the Dental specialty scopes
Date	1 October 2020

“Department of Healthcare Professions presents to you its compliments”.

In the Department of Healthcare Professions’ pursuit to keep up to date with the latest global practices in the field of dentistry, and to promote the healthcare services provided for citizens and residents in the State of Qatar; and based on the decision of the Permanent Licensing Committee (PLC) in its 13th meeting dated 14/09/2020, it has been decided to add “**Orofacial Pain**” to the current approved scopes regulated by DHP; Accordingly, it is mandatory to obtain a medical license issued by the Department of Healthcare Professions to practice this scope as per the attached registration/licensing requirements.

Attachments: Registration/licensing requirements for “Orofacial Pain”

Please refer to the “Approved Dental Specialty Qualifications in the State of Qatar” available in the Dentist Guidelines <http://www.qchp.org.qa/en/Pages/HowToRegisterToPracticeInQatar.aspx>

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**Thank you for your cooperation,
Registration section/ Department of Healthcare Professions**



Attachment 1: Registration/licensing requirements for “Orofacial Pain”

Criteria	Orofacial Pain
Definition	<p>Orofacial pain (OFP) is the specialty of dentistry that encompasses the diagnosis, management and treatment of pain disorders of the jaw, mouth, face and associated regions. In addition to the diagnosis and treatment of acute dental pain and pathology, such as that which may arise from trauma, infection, or other odontogenic origin, the orofacial pain dentist has the responsibility to diagnose and treat nonodontogenic orofacial pain that is often chronic and persistent, multifactorial and complex, distressing, and debilitating.</p> <p>The specialty of OFP is dedicated to the evidenced-based understanding of the underlying pathophysiology, etiology, prevention, and treatment of these disorders and improving access to interdisciplinary patient care. These disorders as they relate to orofacial pain include but are not limited to temporomandibular muscle and joint (TMJ) disorders, jaw movement disorders, neuropathic and neurovascular pain disorders, headache, and sleep disorders.</p>
Licensing Requirements	<p>In order to determine the eligibility for registration in Orofacial Pain specialty, applicants must fulfill the below criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Undergraduate dental education with minimum 5 years’ duration. ii. Minimum 2 years’ Clinical Post Graduate OFP degree from countries *within* the Approved Qualifications list in the Dentist Guidelines. iii. Work experience in the same specialty or combined with other dentistry scopes as per the approved qualifications list. iv. Registration / license covering the required work experience. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holders of Post Graduate degrees from countries *not* among the Approved Qualifications list will be evaluated by Specialized Committees in the State of Qatar. Provided that the duration of study is at least 2 years followed by licensed work experience of minimum 3 years in the same specialty or combined with other dentistry scopes.
Privileges	<p>1. Core Privileges:</p> <p>Dentists are entitled to all core privileges based on “Circular (39-2012)– Guidelines for Dentists” available in the Dentist Guidelines on the following link https://www.qchp.org.qa/en/Pages/HowToRegisterToPracticeInQatar.aspx</p> <p>2. Non-Core Privileges:</p> <p>Orofacial pain Specialists are entitled automatically to the below non-core privileges.</p>



	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide an accurate diagnosis of the most common intraoral and orofacial pain conditions, be able to recognize the more complex orofacial pain conditions, and initiate referrals to appropriate experts in managing such patients. 2. Perform extensive temporomandibular joint, masticatory and cervical muscle examination, evaluation of dental occlusion. 3. Imaging and laboratory technique and interpretation. 4. Diagnostic and treatment procedures including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Craniofacial nerve blocks. II. Intramuscular trigger point injections in the masticatory, head and neck muscles. III. Cognitive-behavioral management strategies. 5. Pharmacotherapy management including topical and systemic analgesics, muscle relaxants, anxiolytics, anticonvulsants, antidepressants 6. Performing some of physiotherapy modalities including: Manual manipulation, Ultrasound therapy, TENS, Therapeutic exercises. 7. Fabrication of oral occlusal appliances. 8. Selective occlusal therapy. 9. Botox injection therapy for headaches and muscle pain conditions. <p>Note: General Dentists and other certified specialists can apply for the above non-core privileges if they provide evidence of advanced training and experience in the above Privileges (an interview may be required).</p>
<p>Other Requirements for Evaluation & Registration</p>	<p><i>(Refer to DHP requirements for license Registration/Evaluation)</i> http://www.qchp.org.qa/en/Pages/HowToRegisterToPracticeInQatar.aspx</p>
<p>Requirements for License renewal</p>	<p><i>(Refer to DHP requirements for license renewal)</i> http://www.qchp.org.qa/en/Pages/HowToRegisterToPracticeInQatar.aspx</p>