



SINGAPORE DENTAL ASSOCIATION

SDA Voluntary Training Framework

Briefing · 27 Aug 2026

How We Got Here – History of COC



SDC proposes COCs

2019

SDA builds its LMS

2024

**SDC announces
wisdom-tooth COC**

Jul 2026

2019

2024–26

Aug 2026

**SDA Position Paper
endorsed**

**Engagement sought,
minimal response**

**SDA develops the
VTF**

The SDA VTF – What We Are Offering

A Voluntary, Sustainable Alternative



Universal

Usable across all disciplines, by GPs or specialists



No Case Quotas

Record what you genuinely do



No Deadlines

No clock, no penalty



Free for Members

Access to the documentation archive



Prior Experience

Cases from any time count



Open to All Providers

Any SDC-accredited CDE provider



Overseas Training Recognised

Good training is good training



Peer Review

Optional collegial validation by trained peers

No artificial procedural ceiling

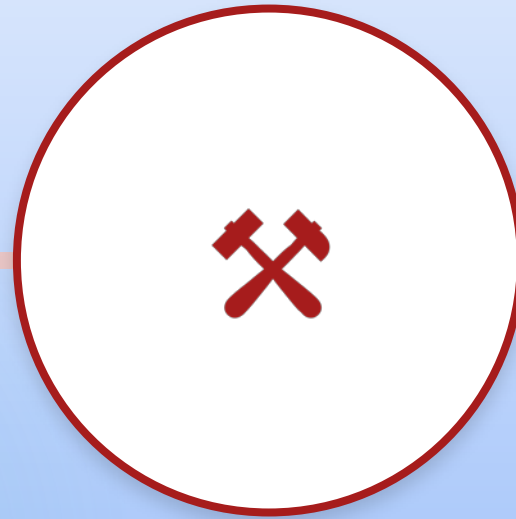
Practice remains governed by training, competence, professional judgement and appropriate referral.

VTF Component 1 – Training Log

What It Is — a voluntary log to record:



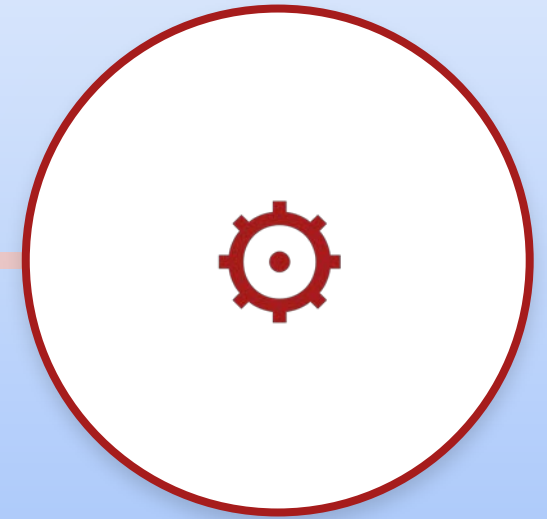
Courses attended



Workshops



**Seminars and
webinars**



**Hands-on training
sessions**

VTF Component 2 – Clinical Log

What It Is — a voluntary log to record:



**Clinical cases
performed**



Procedures



Complications



Outcomes

VTF Component 3 – Peer Review System

What It Is — a voluntary system where an experienced colleague reviews your logs and provides a written attestation.



**Optional – you
choose to
participate**



**Collegial
validation**



**Structured
assessment
using EPA-
inspired criteria**



Builds credibility

Peer Reviewer Eligibility

WHO CAN BE A PEER REVIEWER?



Registration

Fully registered with SDC



Experience

Minimum 10 years post-full registration



Active Practice

Currently in clinical practice



Professional Standing

No restrictions on practice by SDC



Competence

Relevant documented clinical experience in the procedure area



Relationship

Sufficient familiarity with the dentist's work

***Peer reviewers must be eligible and trained - details are in the LMS portal.
The SDA provides FREE TRAINING for interested members.***

Support from Dental Protection

WHAT DPL SAYS



“On behalf of Dental Protection, I welcome the SDA’s efforts to promote professional development and strengthen a culture of continuous learning within the profession. I can see how a voluntary framework of this nature may contribute positively to professional standards and, ultimately, support improvements in the quality of patient care.”

Dr George Wright

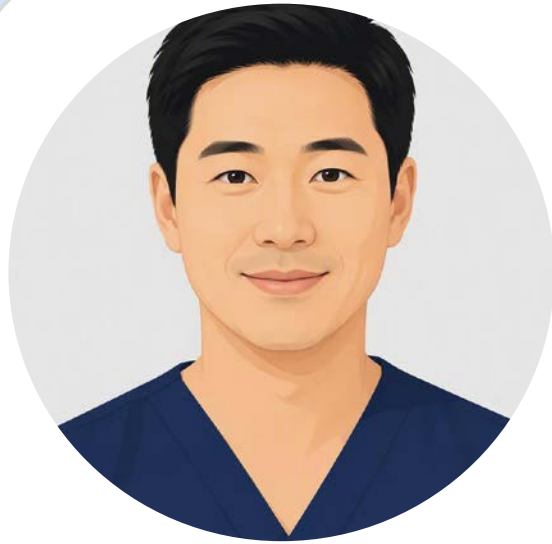
Dental Director, Dental Protection Limited

DENTAL PROTECTION
LIMITED

A voluntary framework, welcomed by the profession’s indemnity provider.

STORIES FROM THE GROUND

300 cases. Back to zero.



Dr Chng

Graduated 2010 - 12 years
- 300+ wisdom tooth cases

UNDER THE SDC COC

- ✗ His 300 cases do not count
- ✗ Start from zero
- ✗ Find 5 suitable patients
- ✗ Finish within 6 months
- ✗ Fees and supervision to arrange
- ✗ Miss the window - start over

UNDER THE SDA VTF

- ✓ His 300 cases count
- ✓ He logs what he has done
- ✓ A colleague attests to it
- ✓ No quotas
- ✓ No deadlines
- ✓ No starting over

Should demonstrated longitudinal experience be given greater weight?

STORIES FROM THE GROUND

World-renowned. Not allowed to teach.



Dr Chye

Wants to learn from a visiting UK professor with 30 years of experience

UNDER THE SDC COC

- ✗ Taught only by SDC-registered oral surgeons
- ✗ The visiting professor is not registered here
- ✗ So he cannot teach the COC course
- ✗ His only option is a local course
- ✗ Teaching quality is not the test

UNDER THE SDA VTF

- ✓ Any CDE-accredited course counts
- ✓ Including international experts
- ✓ Content beats registration
- ✓ He learns from the best available
- ✓ Wherever they happen to practise

Should who teaches matter more than what is taught?

A year in the UK. Counts for nothing.



Dr Kim

One-year clinical fellowship -
100+ supervised cases

UNDER THE SDC COC

- ✗ Overseas training is not recognised
- ✗ He attends a local accredited course
- ✗ He repeats training already completed
- ✗ For the prescribed COC pathway

UNDER THE SDA VTF

- ✓ His overseas training is recognised
- ✓ He logs his 100+ cases
- ✓ Peer review from a colleague
- ✓ Someone who knows his work
- ✓ Experience counts, not just location

Should where you trained outweigh what you can actually do?

YOUR MOVE



What you can do



Your participation makes the VTF stronger.

IF THE COC IS NOT MANDATORY, WHY RUSH?

Why wait and see makes sense



- ✓ **It is not mandatory** You do not need it to practice today.
- ✓ **The framework may change** The COC is new; it may be refined after feedback.
- ✓ **Costs may come down** More competition among providers could reduce fees.
- ✓ **VTF offers a free alternative** No cost, no quotas, no deadlines — already available.
- ✓ **Your experience is still valid** Proof of training shows competence just as well.

There is no downside to waiting — the COC will still be there next year.

“ In a gentle way, you can shake the world.

“I do not want my house to be walled in on all sides and my windows to be stuffed. I want the cultures of all lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible.”

MAHATMA GANDHI

Questions?



Thank you

Document · Reflect · Review · Improve

A voluntary pathway, built by the profession, for the profession.

SINGAPORE DENTAL ASSOCIATION