Guidelines for the promotion of a qualified Postgraduate Specialist of Prosthetics in the DGZPW.
(Deutsche Gesellschaft für Zahnärztliche Prothetik und Werkstoffkunde = German Society für Prosthodontics and Dental Materials = GSPDM)

§1 Basic qualification
The "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW" must have special qualifications in Dental Prosthetics. Candidates must either have successfully completed the program described below, be "habilitated" or hold a Professorship in Dental Prosthetics at a German university. Recognition of qualifications gained abroad is subject to the decision of a special commission.

§2 Conditions for consideration
Applicants must fulfill the following requirements:
  a) Proof of at least 3 years postgraduate study at a training center recognized by the DGZPW (see §7)
  b) Presentation of a complete documentation on the restorative treatment of 8 patients. The documents are to be forwarded to a special commission elected by the general assembly of members. Guidelines for the scope and contents of the case documents to be submitted by applicants to the position of "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW" are given in §10.
  c) Colloquium for the presentation of case documents to the special commission:
     This will be held in two parts. In the first, the documented cases will be discussed. In the second part, applicants will respond to questions drawn from the entire field of prosthodontics and related areas. This colloquium shall not exceed 60 min.
  d) Presentation of two scientific publications in the field of prosthodontics and related areas, one of which may take the form of a summary. The applicant must be the first author of at least one of the papers (excluding Thesis). The papers must be published in recognized journals.

§3 Applications
Applicants for the supplementary title of "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW" must be a member of the DGZPW. The application forms, together with a curriculum vitae and the documents mentioned in §2, are to be sent to the board of DGZPW at least 6 months prior to the General Assembly of the DGZPW.

After the documents presented have been evaluated and accepted by the professional commission, the applicant will be invited to the colloquium. In response to the motion of the commission, the board of DGZPW can then accept the applicant as a candidate for "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW".

Costs of the procedure are paid by the applicant. These are determined yearly by the DGZPW according to the expenditure. Information on costs is available to the applicant on request.

This specialist postgraduate title is linked with membership in the DGZPW and is cancelled on leaving the association. For the relationship between DGZPW and DGZMK membership please see below.

§4 Postgraduate Commissions (Fachkommissionen)
The board of DGZPW determines the formation of two specialist commissions (with 6 members and a chairman each). The Chairman and the members are specialists in Prosthetics in the DGZPW. Members of the commissions are elected for a 3-year term, with one possible reelection.
At the colloquium the Chairman and at least four members of the specialist commission must be present. Minutes of the proceedings must be taken.

§5 Structured training following the final examinations

a) Educational goals:
The "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW" must possess extensive theoretical knowledge and practical clinical experience in the field of Dental Prosthetics, know the technical literature, and be able to transfer professional knowledge.

b) Basic aims:
To gain fundamental and advanced knowledge in clinical and practical application in the field of dental prosthetics, as well as to develop skill in critically evaluating relevant publications. Training centers should have a curriculum drawn up of necessary teaching activities (seminars, courses, etc.) and the applicant should keep a running progress report. The resulting information can then be made use of in other institutions and abroad.

Curriculum (not yet finalized):
Anatomy and physiology of the orofacial system
Etiology, pathogenesis and epidemiology of tooth decay and tooth loss
Etiology, pathogenesis and epidemiology of parodontal disease
Etiology, pathogenesis and epidemiology of cranio-mandibular disorders
Etiology, pathogenesis and epidemiology of diseases of soft tissue and adjacent structures
Reactions of incompatibility, allergenic reactions
Diagnostic and prognostic procedures
Prosthetic diagnosis
Registration techniques and articulators
Dental material science and dental technology
Biomaterials
Strategies of planning
Preprosthetic means and measurements
Functional diagnosis and therapy
Implantology
Fixed dentures
Partial dentures
Combined fixed and removable dentures
Perioprosthetics
Complete dentures
Geroprosthetics
Occlusal therapy by prosthetic means
Shell technique
Prosthetic treatment of patients with jaw and facial defects
Recall systems
Disturbance of adaptation and complicating interferences
Expertism
Settlement of insurance accounts and payment

c) Clinical
The emphasis of the curriculum focuses on the clinical training to enable the candidate
1) to diagnose a case by anamnesis and clinical findings and to organize a complete treatment plan,
2) to execute the above and to review the results critically,
3) to gain long term experience through reevaluation and recall of former patients.
The completed and documented cases should reflect the spectrum of dental prosthetics.

d) Investigation
The candidate should develop the ability to conduct his/her own investigations. He/She will have published at least two original communications (see §2d).
e) Lecturing
The candidate should gain experience in lecturing during his/her program of education.
f) Participation in postdoctoral training
This should be made accessible to the candidate according to the judgment of the head of the training program. The conferences of the DGZPW should be given first consideration.
g) Exchange programs or visits to other centers of education are highly recommended.

§6 Director of the educational program
The director of the program of postgraduate education should have both the time and the academic qualifications to assume the responsibility of teaching in accordance with §5. He/She should guarantee a regular schedule of the events. At the end of the education program he/she will confirm the theoretical and practical competency of the applicant. He/She promotes the investigations of the candidate and the publication of the results. He/She is a clinician in Dental Prosthodontics. He/She is a specialist for Prosthetics of the DGZPW and a member of the Association.

§7 Site of training
The three years of training can take place at locations that are available to the program director and meet the requirements of §6 with regard to ensuring the program of education. Such facilities include the departments of undergraduate Dentistry and of Dental Prosthetics at German universities, which are regularly involved in teaching in this field. Moreover the board of the DGZPW can recognize educational facilities by a simple vote, provided its director meets the above-named requirements. Structured programs of education abroad are recognized as equivalent to those in Germany if at least a 24-month period of education was absolved. In such cases the third year of study should be spent in Germany at a location with a structured program and a recognized director of education. The specialist commission will decide in cases of doubt.

§8 Duration of the supplementary title of "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW"
The supplementary title of "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW" is nullified if the conditions for the qualification are not fulfilled. Qualification for membership as a "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW" (see §9) is reviewed every four years by the board of the DGZPW or a member of the board.

§9 Conditions for maintaining the supplementary title of "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW"
1. It is the obligation of the "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW" to
   a) participate in at least 2 annual conferences of the DGZPW every 4 years
      This is monitored by the board of DGZPW
   b) to attend at least 3 additional postgraduate courses for Dental Prosthetics and neighboring negotiations in Germany or abroad. The annual conferences of DGZPW do not count towards this.
   c) to participate actively according to his/her facilities in postgraduate and scientific enterprises in the profession of dental prosthodontics.
2. University professors of Dental Prosthetics remain "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW" for their lifetime regardless of the conditions named in §9, 1a-c

§10 Guidelines for case documentation
a) the documentation of patient cases required by §2 should cover the following items:
- the case histories should document anamnesis, findings, diagnosis, planning and therapy of extensive cases
- the documentation of patients with implants is desired. Knowledge of preimplantologic diagnosis as well as the planning and execution of prosthetic-implantological rehabilitations is required.
- In at least two of the eight cases the documentation of post-therapeutical care should cover at least 1 year.
- For documentation of the cases color slides or color prints and x-rays are to be presented.
b) The case demonstration should cover the following documents:
1) General medicine anamnesis
Factors of risks and the meaning of factors of resistance are to be judged in connection with the diagnosis and with treatment planning.
2) Dental anamnesis and history
The patients expectations, preparation and complaints with regard of his/her chewing system and with regard to extensive prosthdontic treatment, as well as his/her ability to adapt are to be calculated.
3) Medical and dental findings (clinical status)
Besides the evaluation of accidental systemic diseases, complete clinical status must be filled out. Dental and periodontal parameters (i.e. bleeding on probing; probing depth of attachment level; assessment of root furcation etc.) should be reported. An evaluations of the gums (Gingiva propria and G. mucosa) shall be undertaken in the edentulous areas as well as around the teeth. The functional status as proposed by DGZMK should be recorded thoroughly.
4) Radiographic status
A complete radiographic analysis using the long-tube technique must be performed; in exceptional cases, orthopantomograms are acceptable. The quality of the radiographs will be assessed. All radiologic pathological findings of diagnostic value are to be described.
5) Clinical photographic documentation
Photographs must be taken in occlusion from the front, left and right sides and of the occlusal surface of the upper and lower jaws. Photographs of details and also those during treatment should be taken during therapy.
6) Models (stone castings)
The study casts should be mounted in a semi-adjustable articulator; the master casts should also be mounted. In addition, impressions must be taken at the end of treatment.
7) Diagnosis
The diagnosis must be given for each tooth and the whole dentition.
8) Etiology
The etiology of any disease should be explained; in addition, factors that may influence the treatment and prognosis of the treatment plan should be assessed.
9) Treatment plan
After evaluating and describing the etiology of the disease and the prognosis of each tooth and charting and recording all clinical parameters, a comprehensive treatment plan should be drawn up.
10) Prognosis
The prognosis should be given for the whole situation and for each tooth. Three categories will be used: good, questionable and hopeless.

11) Follow-up of treatment
A detailed description of the treatment carried out should be given. After six weeks, a reevaluation of the initial phase should be performed and documented.

12) Final examination
The same parameters will be measured at the final exam as at the beginning of treatment. The course of treatment must be described and evaluated and the maintenance phase should be determined at this point.

13) Post-therapeutic maintenance
In two cases (see § 10a) a follow-up of two years must be documented.

§11 Altering of guidelines
The guidelines for promoting a "Spezialist für Prothetik der DGZPW" can be altered by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly of the DGZPW.

§12 Validity of the guidelines
These guidelines come into force following approval of the ordinary General Assembly of (date)