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In the past few months, the Order has published Guidelines stipulating that in certain specific fields, dentists must take a number of hours of courses with defined content, within a specific period of time.

For example, the Guidelines on implant-supported rehabilitation stipulate that dentists who perform both the surgical and prosthetic phases of an implant-supported restoration must have completed one of the training courses totalling at least 35 hours for each of the phases or 70 hours for both phases. This training must include practical aspects (clinical exposure and hands-on work).

In addition, dentists who limit their practice to either the surgical or prosthetic phase must have completed one of the training courses totalling at least 35 hours for the phase performed and 15 hours for the other phase. Lastly, general practitioners or specialists already practising implant-supported rehabilitation when these Guidelines were published in the Journal de l’Ordre des dentistes du Québec have 24 months to comply with their requirements and must be able to provide proof of completion of the training if so requested.
The publication of these Guidelines raised some questions by members, and the Order would like to reply to them below.

1. **Concerning the training required by the Order, do I have to take a single course of 15, 30 or 70 hours, or can I take various training to reach the total hours required?**
   Members can accumulate units from different training to reach the total number of hours required, in all the fields of dentistry described in Appendix II of the Guidelines.

2. **Does the Order require specific training or trainers?**
   The training required with respect to implant-supported rehabilitation is subject to the Order’s *Continuing Dental Education Policy*. As this policy provides, the Order exercises no control over the content of the training provided for members; they are responsible for evaluating its relevance and quality themselves.

3. **For implant-supported rehabilitation, how far back can the training go?**
   There is no time limit on the acceptability of training taken in the past. Members must of course ensure that this training is relevant and of proper quality with regard to the scientific standards generally recognized in this field.

4. **I graduated in 2013 and some courses in the doctorate in dentistry concerned implant-supported rehabilitation. Can they count toward the hours of training required?**
   Yes, definitely. It is up to each dentist, depending on the basic training received, the rehabilitation phase handled and the level of complexity of the cases concerned, to obtain the missing hours of theory and practical training needed to acquire the appropriate level of competence (knowledge, understanding, supervision, execution) concerning the elements described in Appendix II of the Guidelines.

5. **What if I hadn’t yet started performing implant-supported rehabilitation yet when the Guidelines were published in the Journal, but I had already completed some courses? Can I start practising and take the rest of the training in the following 24 months?**
   No. In this case you must take the rest of the training to reach the number of hours required before you start practising in this field.

6. **What if I haven’t kept proof of all my past training?**
   The Guidelines do not oblige dentists to submit certifications of appropriate technical and theoretical training to the Order, as a regulation could require. On the other hand, members must be able to provide proof of training completed, on request. Inability to provide such proof may be discussed with the member during a professional inspection or an investigation by the Syndic’s office. Proof other than attestations of attendance may be acceptable, depending on the circumstances.