

GENERAL DENTAL COUNCIL

AND

O'DONNELL, Sharon Maria

[Registration number: 3960]

NOTICE OF INQUIRY

SUBSTANTIVE HEARING

Notice that an inquiry will be conducted by a Practice Committee of the General Dental Council, commencing at **10:00am** on **19 August 2025**.

Please note that this hearing will be conducted remotely by video conference.

The heads of charge contained within this sheet are current at the date of publication. They are subject to amendments at any time before or during the hearing. For the final charge, findings of fact and determination against the registrant, please visit the Recent Decisions page at <https://www.dentalhearings.org/hearings-and-decisions/decisions> after this hearing has finished.

Committee members:

Rhona Stevens	Dentist	Chair
Jane Jones	Lay	
Soheila Asabi	DCP	

Legal Adviser:

William Hoskins	Legal Adviser
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CHARGE

Sharon Maria O'DONNELL, a dental hygienist, Certificate of Proficiency in Dental Hygiene 1990 is summoned to appear before the Professional Conduct Committee on 19 August 2025 for an inquiry into the following charge:

"That being a registered dental hygienist, Sharon O'Donnell's (3960) fitness to practise is impaired by reason of misconduct, in that:

1. You did not provide an adequate standard of care to Patient A, between 01 January 2016 and 22 October 2021 including by not:
 - a. reviewing Patient A's records before or during appointments;
 - b. adequately examining Patient A's mouth and tongue;
 - c. challenging Dentist [REDACTED]'s failure to follow through with a referral after his appointments with Patient A on 22 March 2016 and 30 March 2016; and/or
 - d. sending an urgent cancer referral on behalf of Patient A after her appointment on 4 May 2016.
2. You did not maintain an adequate standard of record keeping in respect of Patient A's appointments between 01 January 2016 and 22 October 2021. This included you not recording at all, or not adequately recording:
 - a. abnormalities in relation to Patient A's tongue, particularly after 4 May 2016;
 - b. treatments provided;
 - c. oral health advice; and
 - d. two appointments on;
 - i. 12 May 2017; and
 - ii. 26 October 2020
3. Your conduct at particulars 1, and 2a had the potential to put Patient A's safety at risk.

AND that by reason of the matters alleged above, your fitness to practise is impaired by reason of misconduct."