I am a general dental practitioner who provides IV conscious sedation for my patients. I have completed formal training and have been doing sedation for many years. It is a very safe and well controlled procedure.

My staff have completed NZRC level 4 resuscitation course every 4 years, and they are a competent part of the clinical team.

I obviously also do a level 6 NZRC every 2 years. I think level 6 is too advanced and is aimed more at emergency medical staff. A level 5 course should be introduced designed more for the dentists and sedation.

For me, I only use a single drug hypnovel which is very safe. My only area of concern in sedation is for GPs that use multiple drugs, which can be much more unpredictable and should be limited to those who perhaps want to do more training.

The status quo is fine and no changes are needed in my opinion.

Shane Summerfield B.D.S.