

[REDACTED]

From: riaan kriek [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 2 December 2016 4:50 p.m.
To: Consultations
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Feedback: fee increase

Good day.

I have received a notice from council that the APC fees might increase from around \$1000, as set in 2015, to around \$1200. (almost 20. % increase)

I personally feel that this increase is not in pace with inflation of the country as a hole and even less in pace with dental inflation.

The largest inflation in dentistry is found in the expense column of dental clinics.

I've been working in New Zealand for just over 8 years now.
In this time some of my fees are still the same today and I can't think of one service fee that has increased by 20% over the 8 year period.

I do know that my suppliers and wages has gone up though.

I feel dentists hasn't adjusted their fees over this time for one reason and that is to aim to satisfy the public.

The dental profession is already under pressure from the public who think that dental services are expensive.

I think dentistry is approaching the tipping point now where many dental practices realize they are making losses. This is mainly due to compliance expensis and other increased expenses.
This realization will lead to upward price adjustments from dentists, this will be the only way to combat the abnormally high dental expense inflation.

I believe raising APC fees by 20% is unreasonable and ultimately not in the public's best interest, it will also create an atmosphere where dentist will seriously have to re-think their pricing structures. Or be left with no other choice but to increase fees.

I hope council will seriously re-think this proposal.

Yours sincerely.

Riaan Kriek

Sent from my iPhone6