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**From:** Gill Bird  
**Sent:** Thursday, 21 April 2016 4:52 p.m.  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** Oral health therapy scope consultation

Hi I would like to add my comments to the below consultation process, I am a Dental Therapist working with an adult scope of practice at Wairau hospital and in the Community Oral health service in Blenheim. I have had 30 year experience and still love my profession. I have been working with new graduates and young DA's waiting to apply for the BOH programme , it would be great to have their career paths formatted with clarity and in alignment with Australia and the trans Tasmen agreement.

Q1: Do you agree with the proposed changes to the oral health therapy scope of practice? If not, please explain. Yes.

Q2: Do you agree with the proposed consultative professional relationship between an oral health therapist and one, or more, dentists/dental specialists, without the need for a signed agreement? If not, please explain. Yes.

Q3: Do you agree that the following orthodontic activities from the oral health therapy scope of practice be moved from direct clinical supervision to being performed within the consultative professional relationship?

a. tracing cephalometric radiographs Yes

b. fabricating retainers and undertaking simple laboratory procedures of an orthodontic nature Yes

If not, please explain.

Q4. Do you agree with the proposal to end-date the two oral health programmes as prescribed qualifications for the orthodontic auxiliary scope of practice? Consequently, oral health graduates that register as an oral health therapist will be removed from the orthodontic auxiliary scope of practice – if registered in the orthodontic auxiliary scope of practice. If you do not agree with the proposal, please explain. Yes agree

Q5: Do you agree with the proposed competency standards for oral health therapists? If not, please explain. Yes agree

**I would also like to add that it would be great to see a separate post graduate training programme in adult scope offered in NZ. As I'm sure you know the Melbourne university is in its second year offering their 6 month adult scope training, ( 10 weeks at the uni) it would be great to join forces with them and be able to offer course to NZ Dental and Oral health therapists.**

**Kind Regards  
Gill**

Gill Bird  
Hospital/Community Dental Therapist