

This submission has been prepared on behalf of the Physiotherapy Board. Any enquiries should be addressed to Jeanette Woltman-Black, Chief Executive, Physiotherapy Board, P.O. Box 10-734, Wellington.

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The Physiotherapy Board thanks the Dental Council for the opportunity to comment on their proposed Oral health Therapy Scope of Practice].

The purpose of the Physiotherapy Board is to set, monitor and promote competence, continuing professional development and proper conduct for the practice of physiotherapy in the interests of public health and safety.

The Physiotherapy Board supports the Dental Council's proposed new scope. The rationale for the Physiotherapy Board's stance is detailed below:

The responses to the Council's questions below are given from a regulatory perspective as the details the clinical nature of Oral Health Therapy are not within the expertise of the Physiotherapy Board.

Q1: Do you agree with the proposed changes to the oral health therapy scope of practice? **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? **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
- b. fabricating retainers and undertaking simple laboratory procedures of an orthodontic nature

Yes

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. **Yes**

Q5: Do you agree with the proposed competency standards for oral health therapists? **Yes**

Q6: Do you agree with the proposed registration transition for oral health graduates? **Yes**

Cheryl Hefford

Professional Advisor

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