

This submission has been prepared on behalf of the Physiotherapy Board. Any enquiries should be addressed to Jeanette Woltman-Black, Chief Executive, the Physiotherapy Board, by email: j.woltman-black@physioboard.org.nz or P.O. Box 10-734, Wellington.

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The Physiotherapy Board thanks The Dental Council for the opportunity to comment on the draft practice standard on Professional Boundaries.

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 response to the consultation questions being posed; and the rationale for the Physiotherapy Board's stance is detailed below in italics:

Q1. Do you agree/disagree with the draft professional boundaries practice standard?
The draft professional boundaries practice standard covers similar content to the Physiotherapy Board's draft standards (also in consultation) on; Sexual and emotional boundaries, Internet and Electronic Communication, the Treatment whānau, family members and others close to you and our revised Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct around informing the Board about professional boundary issues observed in other practitioners. As such we agree with your draft practice standard.

Q2. Does any element of the draft professional boundaries practice standard require clarification or further guidance?
You may wish to consider numbering the bullet points under each section in order to facilitate discussions with Dentists and for legal reference?

Q3. Are there areas you consider to be important that have not been covered in the draft professional boundaries practice standard?
One of the areas that the Board has identified, which does not seem to be covered here, is the inclusion of maintaining sexual boundaries with students on clinical placement and with research participants. You may or may not wish to include these.

Q4. Do you have any further comments on the proposed professional boundaries practice standard?
Including all aspects of Professional boundaries in one place is an interesting way of doing it. It is useful to see the crossover of these different aspects of Professional boundaries, however, it does make the document quite long.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposal.

21 June 2017