



I wish to advise that I strongly believe the APC fees for the dental therapy / oral health therapy professions are not fair and border on discrimination.

In comparison, other dental professional groups have a much higher income and gain more support from DCNZ; I make this statement based on the following:-

1. The current starting salary for an OHT employed in a DHB at Step 1 is \$47,853 with progression steps up to Step 6 \$67,360 (after 6 years). While DTs/OHTs have an agreement to have their APC sum reimbursed if they are employed by a DHB, they still have to pay up front and wait for the sum to be refunded.
2. The supportive structure within a DHB covers costs for clinical noncompliance standards, which significantly decreases DCNZ costs to investigate deficient practice standards for this employment group.

While the past year of upgrading from a paper based registration process to an electronic system has had financial implications for DCNZ, my submission requests that reconsideration of the APC fees for the dental therapy / oral health therapy professions are set at a lower fee, one which reflects their earning capacity and support provided to meet compliance with DCNZ Standards of Practice.

Best regards

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