

Page 2: Information about the person or organisation completing this submission

Q1 This submission was completed by:

Name

Anne Bush

Q2 Are you making this submission

as a registered practitioner

Q3 Please tell us which part of the sector your submission represents

a registered dentist or dental specialist

Page 3: Area one: new core recertification programme

Q4 What, if anything, do you like about our proposed core recertification programme?

It will not help to solve the serious problems dentistry is facing and will not protect the public at all. It is unclear as to whether it is to improve compliance or competence.

Q5 Is there anything about our proposed core recertification programme you would change?

Yes,

Please explain.:

I am concerned with the peer relationship concept. We should not be put in a position of assessing competence or compliance of a colleague: -Possible conflicts of interest or bias, eg poor practitioners protecting each other, or friendships ruined when a peer does not feel comfortable assessing a friend who may not be compliant. -What responsibility does the peer have regarding their colleague's competence/compliance? This will be a box ticking exercise. What is the time/bureaucratic burden it will place on practitioners? The document lacks detail as to data/evidence. CPD points are too easy to achieve - courses need to be of a higher standard and not sales pitches from interested parties or supply companies.

Phase two consultation on recertification

Q6 Do you support our proposal to change the recertification cycle to 12 months?

No,

Please explain.:

The time frame is too short to plan anything- some years have much better courses than others. It is also too short for those taking time out to care for young children,sick or elderly. There is once again the risk that practitioners would attend courses just for points rather than possibly plan or wait for good quality courses that may be in the future.

Q7 Do you think our proposed core recertification programme should include a requirement for practitioners to complete an online open-book assessment of their technical and clinical knowledge and skills?

No,

Please explain.:

This will achieve absolutely nothing.It will not protect the public.There needs to be a change in the emphasis in dentistry - we constantly hear about targets, profitability,nothing about ethics,or for the good of the public.An open book test is insulting.

Q8 If a proposal about an online open-book assessment of a practitioner's technical and clinical skills and knowledge is supported, how often should practitioners be required to complete an assessment?

Please explain.:

This is insulting.

Q9 Do you have other proposals about our proposed core recertification programme you would like us to consider? Please explain.

Every dentist in NZ should be randomly audited every 5 years. Those who do not comply should be charged,and possibly a charge to all dentists. This is the only way there will be protection for the public. It may be better use of funds than the amount it is costing to develop this proposal.

Page 4: Area two: support for new registrants

Q10 What, if anything, do you like about our draft proposals for supporting new registrants?

NZ all provides support systems for new graduates.

There is a huge variation in experience and competency of overseas dentists-it is of great concern. The entry criteria need to be tightened up or there needs to be training at the dental school.

Q11 Is there anything about the draft proposals for supporting new registrants you would change?

Yes,

Please explain.:

Answered above.

Q12 Do you think the proposed two year minimum period for the mentoring relationship is:

too long ,

Please explain.:

The burden on practising dentists would be huge- not appropriate. Who does the mentoring, how much is required?

Phase two consultation on recertification

Q13 Do you think all new registrants should participate in a mentoring programme, or are there some new registrants who should not be required to participate in a mentoring programme?

No,

Please explain.:

Once again this is placing a huge burden on existing dentists. There is a limit on what mentoring can achieve. It would be a disincentive to hire a new registrant.

Q14 Do you have other proposals about supporting new registrants you would like us to consider? Please explain.

We should not be allowing incompetent immigrant dentists, who require clinical mentoring in to NZ as the public have no idea or protection.

Page 5: Area three: addressing health-related competence decline concerns

Q15 What, if anything, do you like about our draft proposals for addressing health-related competence decline concerns?

Yes.

An eye exam is not required by any other health professional certification body.

Dentists already manage their vision and what about loupes?

Where is the evidence behind the eye check requirement?

Q16 Is there anything about the draft proposals for addressing health-related competence decline concerns you would change?

Yes,

Please explain.:

Eye checks-answered above.No

Q17 Do you have other proposals for addressing health-related competence decline concerns you would like us to consider? Please explain.

No

Page 6: Area four: addressing recurring non-compliant practitioner behaviours

Q18 What, if anything, do you like about our draft proposals for addressing recurring non-compliant practitioner behaviours?

Nothing-it will not work. There needs to be auditing of all practices in NZ and follow up of those who are non compliant.

Q19 Is there anything about the draft proposals for addressing recurring non-compliant practitioner behaviours you would change?

Yes

Q20 Do you have other proposals for addressing recurring non-compliant practitioner behaviours you would like us to consider? Please explain.

Already answered.

Page 7: Final thoughts and comments

Q21 Do you have any other comments, suggestions or information you want to share with us about the draft proposals for improving our approach to recertification?

If you are really concerned about protecting the public, or addressing the competency of dentists, practices must be audited.Box ticking bears no relation to what is occurring in individual practices,neither does mentoring.I am extremely concerned about the standard of dentistry I am seeing-both clinically and ethically.
