

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

Q1 This submission was completed by:

Name

Mr Jeffery Lowe

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?

Only, that you will require practitioners with multiple complaints or notifications to undertake additional assessments, possibly peer review.

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

Yes,

Please explain.:

I believe that the majority of the Registered Dental Practitioners in New Zealand are fit and competent to practice dentistry. The Annual Application for an APC form, already covers :- Fitness to Practise, and Compliance with Practice Standards. In the Area one, New core recertification programme, this is over the top for practitioners who have practised for many years. Existing practitioners, know what fillings to use, what extraction and impression techniques work for them. Yes there are new technologies, eg implants, but only those undertaking these should need training and peer review. All Health practitioners know that they should have Annual medical checkups, but do not support a compulsory required eye examination. Support rather than compulsion is the better way.

Phase two consultation on recertification

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

No,

Please explain.:

Better to keep the current 4 year cycle. Do you know that when Teacher's renew their practising certificates, the are for every 3 years at a time rather than annually, also for a fraction of the cost of the Dental APC.

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.:

No, this is another imposition on existing Practitioners, as most of the questions will on areas that are theoretical and are not in in areas, that they will be practising in.

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.:

Only Serial non-compliant and Practitioners with multiple complaints need to be required to undertake such assessments.

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

Overall recertification is becoming too onerous and complicated, leading to more work for the Dental Council and probably another increase in APC Fees.

Page 4: Area two: support for new registrants

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

A good idea, but some new registrants will need help while for others it will just be a waste of time.

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

Yes,

Please explain.:

Yes you need to identify who needs this and who does not.

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

Respondent skipped this question

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?

Yes,

Please explain.:

Answer as in 11.

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

Respondent skipped this question

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?

Too big a stick.

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

Yes,
Please explain.:
Declining Health can lead to declining competence, this will show up with multiple complaints.

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

Support and help is the way to go. Most health issues can be controlled or corrected, eg new lens or hearing aids.

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?

Do not like.

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

Yes,
Please explain.:
When a non-compliant or a Practitioner with multiple complaints is identified. Then the Dental Council, should Audit this Practitioner and his/her Practice. The reasons can then be individually identified, and corrected. The new proposals are going to make a very competent profession, over regulated and not so self managing as in previous years.

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

Respondent skipped this question

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?

There is no need for such sweeping changes and hurry.
