

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

**Q1** This submission was completed by:

Name

**Karmel Isa**

**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?

I see benefit in the proposal that practitioners focus on the quality, rather than the quantity of their PDAs, but I would be interested to see evidence that this is not already happening, given the expense of attending PDAs.

## Phase two consultation on recertification

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

**Yes,**

Please explain.:

While I appreciate the intent, I am concerned that replacing the current system with this more onerous system may not necessarily achieve the goals that have been stated. I am not convinced that the written component will force practitioners to focus on areas that they need to. Firstly, they would be required to identify a need and secondly, I don't see how the written component will make them focus on a specific area any more than the current system. It is still relying on the individual's integrity/knowledge. I am also not sure that working with a peer will necessarily safeguard against failure to identify areas to focus on. I support the concept of encouraging peer support, but I am concerned that more consideration needs to be given as to how this is implemented. Who will decide who has the requisite knowledge and skill to qualify as a peer support, what are the legal implications for the attester, what of the potential for disputes and compromise to collegiality within the profession? If it is determined that it is necessary for individual practitioners to keep a written record of their PDP I would hope that it is possible to fulfil this requirement with brevity. I believe that a written system will be a more beneficial and positive experience if it is not onerous to achieve. This applies to the system as a whole.

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

**No,**

Please explain.:

I believe this period is too short as it doesn't allow for those practitioners who take time away from practice for parental, or health reasons. A longer period allows people to catch up on the requirements when they return to work.

**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?

**Yes,**

Please explain.:

A well structured assessment may assist practitioners to direct their attention to areas to focus on.

**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?

**Annually,**

Please explain.:

This could be linked to the annual practicing certificate renewals, but again I believe conciseness will ensure a more positive attitude, which in turn will ensure maximum benefit to all.

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

A key element of competence is clinical skills. Managing this in retrospect with PDA's is difficult/impossible. The perfect time to ensure these are cemented is at the University of Otago which most registered dentists in New Zealand have passed through. Does the DCNZ have the ability to discuss issues regarding non-compliant recent grads/registrants with the School of Dentistry with a view to achieving better outcomes?

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Page 4: Area two: support for new registrants

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

I support the concept of supporting new graduates with mentors. The NZDA has a successful programme set up.

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

**Yes,**

Please explain.:

I am concerned about the costs associated with mentorship of all new registrants and how this is proposed to be funded.

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

**just right,**

Please explain.:

The NZDA programme is two years and appears to be very successful, therefore I would support this period of time.

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**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.:

It is more simple to administer one rule for all.

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

**Respondent skipped this question**

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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?

I support the concept of addressing health-related competence issues. I would expect that most people would be having an eye test every two years already, as this is the general recommendation.

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

**No,**

Please explain.:

I agree that this is a complex issue which requires a lot more consideration.

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

Respondent skipped this question

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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?

I am supportive of the proposals for managing non-compliant practitioners.

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

**Yes,**

Please explain.:

It is unclear how these proposals will differ from the DCNZ current practice. There is some experience of time delays in dealing with non-compliant behaviour. In a situation of serious, recurring, non-compliant behaviour some improved power for the DCNZ to act on complaints would assist.

**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

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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?

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft proposals with regard to recertification.

In summary I support the concept of ensuring good outcomes for patients and assisting practitioners to identify areas of concern, but I would like to be assured before radical change that any changes will actually address the issues. Otherwise, there is the potential for costs to increase without any real benefit to practitioner competency, or the public.