



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

Q1 This submission was completed by:

Name

LOUISA DEMPSTER



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?

Might deal with the small number of non-compliant practioners effectively

Phase two consultation on recertification

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

Yes,

Please explain.:

The majority of dentist in NZ spend considerable time and expense on continuing education and this proposed recertification seems to consider us all as incompetent and unable to manage this aspect of our careers. It seems as if the small number of practioners who have had competency issues raised with the dental council have cast a long shadow over the rest of us, and as such we are no longer to be treated as professionals by our regulatory body. PDPs and PDAs if to be effective need to be over a longer period than 12 months in order that the sometimes limited range of PDAs available in NZ and especially the locations of these PDAs do not place too great a burden on practioners, especially those living outside of Auckland. Peer review would be better is a group than one on one as this would allow for a greater disucssion of cases which would allow more effective learning and collaboration. A system more like medical GPs in NZ have would be much better than your proposed system. A single peer to manage PDAs and PDPs could end up as a box ticking exercise and may not allow for real change in the few practioners who need it. Peer Attestation also will be hard to regulate, what will they need to look at to provide this? again it may end up as just box ticking

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

No,

Please explain.:

Too short a period to allow for good planning and limited range and locations of PDAs throughout NZ

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.:

We have graduated with a BDS showing our competencies in all areas of dental surgery and an ability to learn. A requirement of annual assessment seems to judge us all as incompetent when only a small number of practioners are getting into trouble. This requirment seems a lot more stringent than other regulatory bodies for eg UK and Australian Dental Councils.

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?

Every five years ,

Please explain.:

Too great a burden on practioners to have to do this more offten especially if they have maintained all their competencies and continuing education requirements. Their time would be better spent on a PDA on a topic they feel would fit their PDP

Phase two consultation on recertification

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

Respondent skipped this question

Page 4: Area two: support for new registrants

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

Hopefully will give support where needed

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

Yes,

Please explain.:

Will this requirement for mentoring include dentists who have had a career break while practising overseas? If they keep their continuing education up to date and get a certificate of good standing from the place they have practised surely the requirement for mentoring would be unnecessary .

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

just right,

Please explain.:

For newly graduated dentists. I am involved in mentoring a new graduate and the current 2 year system seems about right.

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.:

all new graduates should be mentored, however dentists returning from maternity leave, or a career break for less than 3 years should not require mentoring if they have kept their CPD up to date. This should also be the case for NZ dentists who have worked overseas if they can provide evidence of continuing education and a certificate of good standing or equivalent.

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?

Respondent skipped this question

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

No

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

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?

Hopefully they will be dealt with better than current system which has seem to allow recidivism

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

No

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?

The majority of NZ dentists are careful, competent and want the best for our patients. Please treat us as professionals and try and encourage good quality PDAs and PDPs to earn the required CPD hours, rather than attestations and peer review from a single colleague which may actually be no better than the current situation.