

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

Q1 This submission was completed by:

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Q2 Are you making this submission

on behalf of a ,
group
If group, company or organisation, please
specify::
Northland Branch NZDA

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

**a professional
association**

Page 3: Area one: new core recertification programme

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

We agree that there should be better mentoring and support for overseas trained dentists and also that those practitioners having competence issues should have the greatest focus.

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

Yes,
Please explain.:
We feel that most practitioners are working hard to
maintain their competence. Issues that arise for dentists
are largely around record-keeping and communication
issues and we feel that these problems are not addressed
by any of the changes.

Phase two consultation on recertification

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

No,

Please explain.:

It will take considerable effort for practitioners to keep to a 12 month recertification. This is an onerous task annually and will cause stress. If a practitioner takes time away from practice eg for maternity leave, 12 months will not be possible. We think 3-4 years is adequate.

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?

Respondent skipped this question

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?

Respondent skipped this question

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?

We agree that mentoring would be helpful for all recent registrants, however, in our region we struggle to get mentors for the Otago graduates as requested by the NZDA - having to find quality mentors who are willing to volunteer to mentor the over-seas registrants will be difficult.

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

Respondent skipped this question

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

just 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?

Please explain.:

We think it is good for all new registrants to have mentors but we know it will be a struggle to find people to be mentors.

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?

Yes,

Please explain.:

We think there are more important problems for the Dental Council to address than withholding registration from practitioners who are late with their eye test. Most dentists in our branch have an eye test as required. We think that eye sight is one of the many physical aspects of health required to be competent.

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?

We agree that this is where the focus should be for the Dental Council.

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

Respondent skipped this question

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?

Due to timing of meetings, our branch was able to have only one meeting after this document was released before the submission was due. There was insufficient time for us to consider and discuss such an important document and we feel that the process has not been robust because of this. Also, the timing of the forum in our region as well as the webinars being held over the school holidays was very inconvenient for those practitioners who were away with school-aged children at that time. We feel that CPD is a very relevant tool to encourage practitioners to attend meetings and we would strongly encourage the Council to keep a significant compulsory CPD element in any changes to recertification. Attendance at branch meetings encourages collegiality and keeps practitioners from becoming isolated - CPD really encourages that participation at a branch level.