

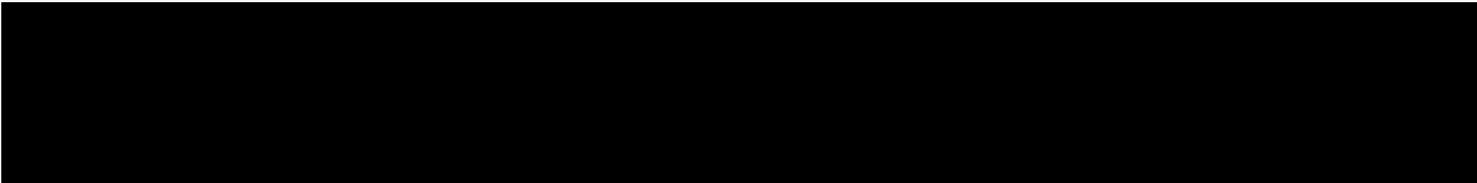


Page 2: Information about the person or organisation completing this submission

**Q1** This submission was completed by:

Name

**Thejaswini Ramprasad**



**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?

Mandatory 2 year mentoring programme

## Phase two consultation on recertification

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

**Yes,**

Please explain.:

I would like to change the professional peer reviewed professional development plan and development of professional activities. As each of the dentists are in different phases of their practice , ages from 23years - 70years ,some may be practising full time and some may be practising part time , some semi retired . There is not practical to apply to all dentists.Also these programs can add more stress into the daily life of dentists . It requires a lot of time , effort and money to start with . Also as we have very limited family time , it means carry a lot of homework and burden which leaves us with very little time for our family and friends . As I have been recertified recently and have been given lot of activities in terms of assignments , CPD programme(some of which costs a fortune to attend ), having to meet mentor regularly apart from my routine dental work this has left me feeling like I do not have a life outside of dentistry . Sometimes spending time with family and friends makes me feel so guilty that I feel I should get back to doing assignments and other components listed in my competence program . I have also felt at many instances vulnerable, let down and stressed to the point that I have contemplated leaving the dental profession behind and finding a job as a check out lady or supermarket assistant which is far more less stressful a job. My husband and me are under tremendous strain both financially and emotionally ,I feel so drained as I do not have any time to give to my family and friends . I have to work long hours to support my family and coming home I have only time to cook dinner after which I have sit with patient notes, assignments , reading journal and so on .Is this what we expect to do all our lives ? to think about it our patient's hardly reciprocate any of our efforts .The part of Auckland I work , I have at several times been taunted by patients for charging for radiographs and other dental work and in practice it is very challenging to make patients understand our situation that we as dental professionals have to pay for our registration , our NZDA membership,ADA membership, indemnity fees, CPD activities which can sum up to a substantial amount of our income . Is there a way the Dental Council NZ understands the demographics of different parts of New Zealand and actually give some sort of rebate for practitioners working in lower socio economic parts of NZ.

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

**No,**

Please explain.:

Above mentioned are my reasons why I do not agree to the proposal for recertification cycle to 12 months .

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## Phase two consultation on recertification

**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.:

An open book assessment would mean nothing to test the clinical knowledge and skills . Everyday when a dental practitioner is being questioned by patients that itself tests our knowledge and skills .We can rather have discussion groups within which each practitioner has an opportunity to meet his/her peers on a timely basis and valuable exchange of their clinical knowledge which indeed would be more helpful .

**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.:

If it is mandatory , every 5 years

**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?

the 2 year mentorship program to ease new registrants into the profession .

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

**No**

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

**too** ,  
**long**

Please explain.:

1 year period would be long enough . This way there will be more availability of mentors for everyone.

**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.:

only new registrants in sole practice or isolated practices should be required to participate in mentorship programme . If the new registrants are practising in a group practise they would have their associates or other dentists to mentor them.

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

**Respondent skipped this question**

## Phase two consultation on recertification

### 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**

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

**Yes,**

Please explain.:

As health professionals we are well aware of our health conditions and will not attempt to ignore the health condition and continue to practice . I think there should be a certain amount of trust in letting dental professionals address and deal with their own health situation unless there is any external factors like alcohol or drug dependency involved.

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**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?

non

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## Phase two consultation on recertification

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

**Yes,**

Please explain.:

As I have been recertified recently and have been given lot of activities in terms of assignments , CPD programme(some of which costs a fortune to attend ), having to meet mentor regularly apart from my routine dental work this has left me feeling like I do not have a life outside of dentistry . Sometimes spending time with family and friends makes me feel so guilty that I feel I should get back to doing assignments and other components listed in my competence program . I have also felt at many instances vulnerable, let down and stressed to the point that I have contemplated leaving the dental profession behind and finding a job as a check out lady or supermarket assistant which is far more less stressful a job. My husband and me are under tremendous strain both financially and emotionally ,I feel so drained as I do not have any time to give to my family and friends .I have to work long hours to support my family and coming home I have only time to cook dinner after which I have sit with patient notes, assignments , reading journal and so on .Is this what we expect to do all our lives ? to think about it our patient's hardly reciprocate any of our efforts .The part of Auckland I work , I have at several times been taunted by patients for charging for radiographs and other dental work and in practice it is very challenging to make patients understand our situation that we as dental professionals have to pay for our registration , our NZDA membership,ADA membership, indemnity fees, CPD activities which can sum up to a substantial amount of our income . Is there a way the Dental Council NZ understands the demographics of different parts of New Zealand and actually give some sort of rebate for practitioners working in lower socio economic parts of NZ. End of the day we are just mortals and having to expect to cope with this amount of work and reporting progress every month really gives me night mares and I am surprised that there is no say for us as practitioners as they are deemed to do so.Is it fair that our lives are dictated by Dental council and not having a say in it.

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**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?

Minor changes can be made taking into consideration the work ,lifestyle and age group of dentists.