

## Submission for consultation of changes to recertification

When the CPD credits were first introduced in 2004, most competent dentists were sceptical that they would improve the competency of poorly performing dentists. The Dental Council now acknowledges that this scepticism anticipated the current reality. Fortunately the compliance with this system was not terribly burdensome. The great benefit of the CPD system was it increased the choice of available continuing education, which in turn increased peer contact.

The other great, and invaluable benefit was the resuscitation training requirements which has resulted in much improved training being available.

This practitioner remains sceptical that the presently proposed changes will have much effect on the competency of poorly performing dentists, but it will add a considerable extra burden of compliance to all of us with the “one size fits all” approach.

(Personally, I have 30 years of IE5 exercise books in my work office which I frequently have cause to refer to. A plan or summary of my so called “learnings” would be unnecessary, nor would having them reviewed be anything less than a waste of time.)

I wish to further add that I learnt from the consultation meeting that the Dental Council seems to be more interested in covering their own potential legal liabilities with the Government by requiring such an onerous compliance burden on dental practitioners.

Quite simply, that is unfair. It doesn't provide any guarantee of improving the competence of the profession, which surely ought to be the goal.

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