

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Page 2: Your demographics

Q1 Your details

Name	Helen Tane
Company/organisation	[REDACTED]
City/town	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]

Q2 Your submission is in the capacity as **dental therapist**

Page 3: The proposal

Q3 Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to remove the 18-year age limit for restorative activities from the OHT scope of practice including: accredited, gazetted programmes allowing oral health therapists to perform restorative treatment on patients 18 years and older an exclusion, such as "Restorative treatment on patients 18 years and older", being placed on oral health therapists' scopes of practice until they complete an accredited adult restorative programme which will allow them to apply to have the exclusion removed (noting that the activities registered oral health therapists can currently perform within their scope of practice remain unchanged).

Strongly agree

Page 4: Your support

Q4 Please describe why you support the proposal

Patients of all ages should have access to the preventive model of care an OHT is skilled in. Patient centred care (instead of dentist's focussed care) should allow OHT's to independently provide a comprehensive exam for patients of all ages and refer care outside their scope, just as they do with children. This model of care has been working really well in Australia since it was introduced, and other western countries. The model introduces affordability for patients who currently can't access dental care, which continues to be the biggest barrier.

Page 5: Your concerns

Q5 Please describe your specific concern/s with the proposal

Respondent skipped this question

Page 6: Details about OHT scope, qualifications and competencies

Q6 Do you have any specific feedback on the proposed amendments to the OHT scope of practice, prescribed qualifications or competencies as set out in appendices 1 & 2? **No**

Page 7: Specific comments on the proposal

Q7 Please provide us specific comments related to the OHT scope, qualifications and competencies.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 8: Anything else

Q8 Do you have any further comments on the proposal?

Yes

Page 10: Last thoughts

Q9 Please provide us your feedback

So many people continue to suffer the effects of poor oral health while NZ lacks leadership and follows direction and politics of NZDA. Overall health would significantly benefit across the lifespan when NZ catches up with other countries and utilises the full potential of an oral health therapist . Implementing independent practice for OHTs across the lifespan is vital, to implement affordability. Using evidence from other countries where OHTs have safely provided a valuable model of care across the life-span, should fast track NZ's apprehensive approach and make this happen in the near future. In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing. The worst thing you can do is nothing
