

[Redacted]

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Page 2: Your demographics

**Q1** Your details

Name	Donna Bartholomew
Company/organisation	[Redacted]
City/town	[Redacted]
Email	[Redacted]

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

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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). **Disagree**

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Page 4: Your support

**Q4** Please describe why you support the proposal **Respondent skipped this question**

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Page 5: Your concerns

**Q5** Please describe your specific concern/s with the proposal

The statement:

Inconsistency between dental therapy and OHT scopes of practice. The scope of practice for adult care in dental therapy practice exists, but oral health therapists cannot register in this scope of practice as they are no longer registered in dental therapy.

OHT in most DHBs and private practice outside of their hygiene scope primarily provide the same restorative skills to patients as DTs.

There is no current course enabling Dental Therapists to treat patients 18+

DTs or OHTs providing the same restorative treatment services should be able to access the same course to treat patients 18 years+ based on the Clinicians patient skill set and experience not just the fact they are registered OHTs

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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? **Yes**

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Page 7: Specific comments on the proposal

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

There needs to be assurance that OHT are competent in restorative practices and have significant patient experience before being accepted to increase their scope of practice. The same should be offered to DTs that wish to provide adult care. The NZDC has shown understanding in some of the current educational and support practices of graduating OHT and the need for ongoing mentorship. There needs to be a significant period of audited and successful independent practice before a clinician should be accepted for an advanced skill training.

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Page 8: Anything else

**Q8** Do you have any further comments on the proposal? **Yes**

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Page 10: Last thoughts

**Q9** Please provide us your feedback

Any decision on an adult restorative extension course should be equally offered to both disciplines based on auditing and current patient care experience and skill.

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