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Page 2: Your demographics

**Q1** Your details

Name **Tanya Cleland**

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). **Agree**

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Page 4: Your support

**Q4** Please describe why you support the proposal

This aligns the OHT scope with the existing DT scope which already provides for adult care in dental therapy with approved training. There is a need for the oral health profession to continue to strive toward "good oral health, for all, for life". There are currently adults who are not seeking dental care from anyone, predominantly due to cost. This extension of age of restorative care may in some way reduce the burden of oral health diseases of those currently receiving no care, OR necessary preventive services. This is not just about fillings but giving people access to services which they are currently not. I can see this being an important collaboration between dental specialities providing mutual support and referral opportunities with the end goal of improving oral health outcomes.

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Page 5: Your concerns

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

Respondent skipped this question

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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? **No**

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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.

Respondent skipped this question

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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

My earlier submission was lost in the "glitch" so reposting now, after checking the list. I was surprised and shocked at the lack of understanding about what dental therapists and OHTs are actually qualified to do. Comments about not filling permanent teeth surprises me that people are working in their isolated bubbles without a good understanding of all of the scopes of practices gazetted by the DCNZ. There are opportunities being missed here for professional, collaborative, supportive relationships amongst the scopes which can only serve the public better.

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