

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Page 2: Your demographics

Q1 Your details

Name	Rachel Bridgeman
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).	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

I am somewhat conflicted as I have historically been a strong advocate for the age restrictions to be removed, however given the current context including pending workforce issues (DT retirement) and having the workforce to provide the care and who want work in DHB or community focused providers, but also the level of skills that I am seeing via either employing OHT's or supporting them with placement while studying, is ever decreasing in abilities – I do not think it would safe or wise for this to go ahead for either the public or the profession... at this stage.

The dual scope qualification has already impacted negatively (in my view) on the workforce availability (e.g. OHT's not wanting to work in DHB or in private practice as an OHT instead preferring to work just as a hygienist to maximise their own income first over learning how to provide effective and appropriate care for our community). Additionally they have expectations (salary and opportunity) which are often more appropriate for an experienced competent clinician not a new or recent grad who is still working through the normal process of becoming a competent experienced clinician.

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? **No**

Page 10: Last thoughts

Q9 Please provide us your feedback **Respondent skipped this question**
