Consultation on the age limit for restorative activities in the oral health therapy scope of practice

Page 2: Your demographics

Q1 Your details	
Name	Abdulla Salman
Company/organisation	
City/town	
Email	
Q2 Your submission is in the capacity as	dentist or dental specialist

Strongly

disagree

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).

Page 4: Your support

Q4 Please describe why you support the proposal

Respondent skipped this question

Page 5: Your concerns

Q5 Please describe your specific concern/s with the proposal

The removal of the 18 year old age limit on OHTs should not be implemented. There is a shortage of OHTs in the community and increasing their scope will only divide the workforce. In addition, they receive less training in dealing with more complex oral health situations that we often as dentists see. These are almost exclusive to over 18s.

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Page 6: Details about OHT scope, qualifications and competencies

Q6 Do you have any specific feedback on the proposed **Yes** amendments to the OHT scope of practice, prescribed qualifications or competencies as set out in appendices 1 & 2?

Page 7: Specific comments on the proposal

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

Dentistry is not an easy career path to get into. It is competitive in acceptance stages right through to graduation. We are taught basic health sciences and human anatomy and biology. We are also taught the practical side of dentistry which includes treating children and adults. The large proportion of the patients we see at dental school are adults. When we graduate, we see mostly adults also because of SDS contracts and dental school buses. I feel that expanding the OHTs may cause problems in the long run due to the lack of adequate training and exposure that their course provides in comparison with ours. I would support an increase in dental graduates but not an increase in OHT scope.

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