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

Page 2: Your demographics

Q1 Your details	
Name	Isha Woodhams
Company/organisation	
Email	
Q2 Your submission is in the capacity as	dentist or dental specialist

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 disagree

Page 4: Your support

Q4 Please describe why you support the proposal

Respondent skipped this question

Page 5: Your concerns

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Q5 Please describe your specific concern/s with the proposal

Similar principle to hygienists historically being hygienists and not therapists.

Adult scope oral health therapy and inclusion and exclusion criteria are not easily understood by the general public.

Without a clear delineation with a different practicing title the age restrictions become semantic and cumbersome to monitor and audit.

As Dental disease is multifactorial and complex one can't simply diagnose caries and periodontal disease in isolation and cannot be treated with simply knowledge about those things.

A knowledge about systemic, pharmacological, psychological, occlusal function, orthodontics and parafunction cannot simply be condensed to the adult scope programme that is being prescribed. In this regard I believe that this is not simply a matter of possible confusion for patients searching for a dental professional to receive care, but maleficient and dangerous to the general public.

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.

No

The inconsistencies between the dental therapy and OHT are not a good reason to change the scope of practice.

Page 8: Anything else

Q8 Do you have any further comments on the proposal?

Page 10: Last thoughts

Q9 Please provide us your feedback

Respondent skipped this question