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



Page 2: Your demographics

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

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

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Q4 Please describe why you support the proposal

I believe the intent for expanding the scope of practice must be carefully examined. It would be prudent to consider how opening the scope of practice would impact in an already under staffed, under budget, and bursting at the seams under 18 Oral Health Program at a national level and especially our more rural areas.

I am sure there will be many capable candidates who have the potential to perform the procedures on over 18 year old patients to the highest level. However, I do have my doubts as to whether or not they are well equipped with the existing training programs in place. Medically compromised patients, those with complex occlusal disharmony, proper diagnosis of pulpal status are some of the concerns that I see. I believe if this were to proceed it must be met with a robust, adjunctive training module and therapists should be strictly supervised by a dentist at all times for the patients safety. If we are to allow therapists to set up their own clinics and 'run free' so to speak it will become a national public health and safety issue that will leave a dark and deep scar in our history of this profession.

I am always an advocate for my patients. If it is done correctly, with the appropriate consultations and the standards are upheld to the utmost extreme quality - and it is something that is going to be helpful to our patients then I'm all for it. However, I just don't believe that that is what is needed at the moment and we should be directing our attention to our already under performing under 18 program

Page 5: Your concerns

Q5 Please describe your specific concern/s with the proposal	Respondent skipped this question
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