

Page 2: Your demographics

## Q1 Your details

Name Hadleigh Clark

Company/organisation

City/town
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

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

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

Many of my colleagues have already put forward sound arguments regarding the concerns this proposal may have to increasing inequity of access for paediatric / adolescent patients, as well as the fact that the modus for doing this appears politically driven. Such changes have not been definitively proven to drive down the cost of adult dental health care or improve the overall dental health status of a population in the international arena and given the paucity of funding and predicament the current position of New Zealand dental health is in, this is not a time to be experimenting with unproven radical changes. As a specialist dealing with adult patients with multi-morbidity, hyperpolypharmacy and a diverse array of oral and maxillofacial pathology, my concern is that there is a lack of training already in undergraduate education. Inevitably the patient groups this proposal is supposed to influence, i.e. low SES and / or elderly will also be those most at risk of suffering multiple medical diagnoses, taking multiple medications and at risk of oral pathology for which there is no robust training. A proposed change in the age limit would need to coincide with accreditation review of the curricula to detail these issues, as well as mechanisms to upskill the existing workforce.

**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?

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