

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Page 2: Your demographics

Q1 Your details

Name **john Falkiner**

Company/organisation

[REDACTED]

City/town

[REDACTED]

Email

[REDACTED]

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 agree

Page 4: Your support

Q4 Please describe why you support the proposal

Until recently I was the largest private employer of Dental therapists in NZ. I found their clinical skills the equal of all but the most experienced employed dentists when providing basic restorative services. Patient management skills were often superior to the dentists.

Our practice demographic was heavily weighted towards lower SES groups. Many of our patients would have benefited from having their basic dental needs attended by a therapist, allowing a dentist to concentrate on their needs that fell outside the scope of practice.

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? **Yes**

Page 7: Specific comments on the proposal

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

1-Present age limit is purely arbitrary. Scope should be defined in terms of clinical services not the age of the patient. 2-a "grandmother" clause should recognise mature therapist's academic qualifications as being equal to recent graduates in terms of further training requirement. 3- training program needs to be accessible to those current practitioners allowing for distant learning option.

Page 8: Anything else

Q8 Do you have any further comments on the proposal?

Yes

Page 10: Last thoughts

Q9 Please provide us your feedback

There is currently a large unmet need amongst the elderly community who would benefit from basic services provided by therapists.
