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Page 2: Your demographics

**Q1** Your details

Name	Brigitte Lyne
Company/organisation	[Redacted]
City/town	[Redacted]
Email	[Redacted]

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**Q2** Your submission is in the capacity as **dentist or dental specialist**

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Page 3: The proposal

<b>Q3</b> 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).	<b>Strongly disagree</b>
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Page 4: Your support

<b>Q4</b> Please describe why you support the proposal	Respondent skipped this question
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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

I am writing in opposition to the proposed change to Oral Health Therapists Scope of Practice to treat patients over the age of 18. Like many of my dentist colleagues I am concerned that a 3 year programme and restorative course is insufficient to cover the content of a 5 year BDS degree. Older adults can have complex medical and social issues that require careful management. I am concerned for the safety of the New Zealand public that under-qualified OHT practitioners will be performing dental treatments without adequate medical & pharmaceutical knowledge and will not have the ability to manage an acute medical emergency or adverse reaction. Diagnosis and treatment planning, even with a comprehensive dental education, can times be challenging and complex. I am concerned that patients will not be given the opportunity to give fully informed consent, how will and OHT explain properly the pros & cons of each treatment option if they only have limited knowledge and the ability only to provide some restorative work. I think there are better alternatives to providing treatment to the elderly in aged care or those in low socio-economic areas. Oral health therapists play an invaluable part in treating our children through the school dental service and under 18 system, it would seem counterintuitive to take oral health therapists away from these crucial roles.

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### 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**

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### 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**

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### Page 8: Anything else

**Q8** Do you have any further comments on the proposal? **No**

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### Page 10: Last thoughts

**Q9** Please provide us your feedback **Respondent skipped this question**

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