



Page 2: Your demographics

Q1 Your details

Name	Dusty Pearson
Company/organisation	[Redacted]
City/town	[Redacted]
Email	[Redacted]

Q2 Your submission is in the capacity as **oral health therapist**

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

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

Q4 Please describe why you support the proposal

More than ever New Zealanders require increased access to care, especially for low income & elderly patients who are both increasing in number.

There is evidence of the success of midlevel providers including Nurse Practitioners & Clinical Pharmacists, reducing pressure on doctors and increasing access & affordability for patients.

Oral Health Therapists work with patients of all ages, including elderly patients with complex medical histories. This is one of the key population groups where adult scope OHTs are desperately needed to help combat the increasing income inequality, cost of dentistry, and aging population. Dentists lack an incentive to take time away from their own patients to see the vulnerable elderly in rest homes.

New Zealand has had almost 100 years of successful restorative treatment by dental therapists. The Community Oral Health Service (previously School Dental Service) is world-leading, and has been the envy of the world. All new dental therapy scopes in USA & Canada have no age limit on patients. OHTs are university educated and already provide restorative care on adult teeth, including on patients with full adult dentition through treating adolescents.

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
