



Page 2: Your demographics

Q1 Your details

Name	Sadaf Froozanfar
City/town	
Email	

Q2 Your submission is in the capacity as Other (please specify):
student

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

I believe there should be removal of the 18-year age limit for restorative activities from the OHT scope of practice. Many New Zealanders avoid receiving dental care due to having restricted accessibility to care. This change will allow for more health practitioners who can provide treatment being readily available to meet the high demand that exists. The current accessibility rate and cost of treatment for restorative care results in many individuals prolonging receiving dental treatment that they require. As a result, their condition tends to worsen and they will eventually require more extensive treatment. This creates a cycle resulting in many New Zealanders obtaining poor oral health standards despite solutions like this being presented.

This is an issue that must be addressed as the World Health Organisation states that "Oral health is a key indicator of overall health, wellbeing and the quality of life." Therefore, the overall health of many New Zealanders is being negatively affected by the current standards. This is supported by the 2009 NZ Oral Health Survey summary report presented by the Ministry of Oral Health which states that "there was clear evidence of unmet need for dental care among adults, with nearly half of adults feeling they currently needed dental treatment." Furthermore, the Publication of the New Zealand Health Survey's 2017/18 annual results stated that "about 1.6 million adults with natural teeth (44%) avoided going to a dental health care worker in the past 12 months because of cost." Also, "nearly half of adults with natural teeth (47%) visited a dental health care worker in the past year" which decreased from 52% in 2006/07. This highlights that it is a growing issue within New Zealand society.

As an Oral Health student, I believe that we are receiving adequate clinical practice and knowledge to become health providers who can effectively complete many forms of restorative care for over 18-year olds. This is because; we practice restorations on the permanent dentition during simulation activities and have solid knowledge on the pharmacological aspect of care required during treatment planning.

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
