

11th January 2020

Dental Council

PO 10-448

Wellington 6143

Dear Marie,

On behalf of the North Team Dental Therapists that work in the Northland District Health Board and our counterparts nationally, we would like to write in our concerns re the rise in annual practice certificates for Dental Therapist from \$904 and \$1,687.

We feel that this rise in fees under values the expertise and experience of Dental Therapists and that the cost of fees compared to other dental occupations including Dentists and Oral Health Therapists is much higher and unnecessary. Dental and Oral health Therapists that work for District Health Boards are on the same salary and mecca/union agreements the difference will be years of service.

The fees will also have a considerable effect on the northland district health board annual budget who have employed 27 Dental Therapists @ \$904 = \$24,408 to 27 @ 1687 = \$45,459 a considerable increase and unplanned cost to the oral health service.

Can you please consider not increasing the fees for Dental Therapists. We look forward to your positive reply.

Regards

North Team Dental Therapists

Kelly Larkins [REDACTED]

Margaret Tahere, Dianne Masters, Danni Craighill, Suzanne Hensman, Glenys Bryers, Natalie Wright, Rangi Morgan- French