



Page 2: Your information

Q1

Your details

First name	Rachael
Surname	Knight
City/town	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]

Q2 dental or clinical dental technician

Your submission is in the capacity as

Page 3: Name of company/organisation

Q3 Respondent skipped this question

Name of company/organisation

Page 4: Your Person ID number

Q4

Please add your Dental Council Person ID registration number

[REDACTED]

Page 5: Please provide your feedback by responding to the following question

Q5

No

Do you support the proposed Supplementary risk management principles for oral health during the COVID-19 pandemic? If you do not support the draft, please share your concerns, reasons for your view, and proposed alternatives if you have any.

Q6

Please share any comments you have below:

The PPE requirement for a single-use apron to be changed between patients seems excessive, expensive, and environmentally irresponsible. I support the use of these for Moderate Risk patients, but not Low Risk. In addition, the requirement to provide all patients with a medical mask is also unnecessary if they are wearing their own on arrival and exit. I think it is more important that patients wash or sanitise their hands on entry to the reception, and exit from the clinic environment. Why create more cost and waste than necessary?

I would also like to have better guidance on how we can apply our own judgement to those patients with pre-existing conditions which may mean they answer yes to the screening questions, despite being vaccinated. Example; patient with COPD or emphysema who may experience shortness of breath as their normal state.

As a room stand-down period can be implemented for any risk patient, I think it is unnecessary to state that we see these patients at the end of a session e.g before lunch or end of the day. The reality for a CDT, is more than 50% of our patients may fall into Moderate or High Risk despite being vaccinated, due to symptoms from pre-existing conditions.

Another concern I have is with the public messaging around whether healthcare providers can even ask for vaccination status. Taken from a government Covid-19 page on 27-11-21 is the following statement; "Some businesses are prohibited from asking for My Vaccine Passes. These include supermarkets, pharmacies, all health and disability services, social services, food banks, petrol stations and public transport (excluding air-travel)." Yet the screening questions require we see a Vaccine Pass in order to classify Low Risk patients. Most will not have an issue with showing this if asked, but we need to be able to effectively manage those who are not willing to share their status thinking that we have no mandate to ask.
