



Te Kaunihera  
Rata o  
Aotearoa

**Medical  
Council of  
New Zealand**

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Marie MacKay  
Chief Executive  
Dental Council Te Kaunihera Tiaki Niho

By email: [consultations@dcnz.org.nz](mailto:consultations@dcnz.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Marie

### **Ireland Dental Council accredited dentistry programmes**

Thank you for inviting Te Kaunihera Rata o Aotearoa | Medical Council of New Zealand to provide feedback on the above consultation.

We note that the Dental Council is proposing to gazette the Dental Council of Ireland accredited dentistry programmes as prescribed qualifications for the New Zealand general dental practice scope of practice. We understand this follows a validation process and reciprocal agreement that recognises that accreditation standards, scopes of practice and competencies are substantially equivalent between the two jurisdictions.

We congratulate the Dental Council for its proactive approach in considering recognition of international programmes. This proposal will streamline registration pathways for graduates from these programmes and facilitate easier movement of graduates between Ireland and New Zealand.

You may be interested to know that this proposal aligns with the approach we take to doctors with a primary medical qualification from Ireland. We recognise the Irish Medical Council as meeting our [competent authority criteria](#), meaning we consider it to have equivalent systems to our own. As such, doctors with a primary medical qualification from Ireland who have completed an internship there can apply for registration in New Zealand via the [competent authority pathway](#).

Nāku noa, nā

Joan Simeon  
Manukura | Chief Executive