



Page 2: About your submission

Q1

First name

Chris

Q2

Last name

Waalkens



Q4

New Zealand

Are you primarily based in New Zealand or overseas?

Q5

Company/organisation name

Auckland Perio

Q6

Registered oral health practitioner

In what capacity are you making this submission?

Page 3: About your submission

Q7

Dental specialist

What is your profession?

Q8

Please enter your Dental Council Person ID, if applicable

DD1885

Page 4: Proposed registration pathways

Q9

Yes

Do you believe the proposed changes will help reduce barriers to registration for suitably trained overseas practitioners?

Q10

Please tell us why:

Some applicants will not have to go through individual assessments. Having been involved with these, I suspect that they are a barrier for some practitioners who might want to consider working in NZ.

I think that it is very important to have an easier pathway for academics wanting to be involved in teaching and research in NZ

Page 5: Introduction of the proposed 'Competent authority - registration' pathway

Q11

Partially support

Do you support the introduction of the 'Competent authority - registration' pathway?[Click to learn more about the proposed pathway](#)

Q12

Please tell us why:

Having this pathway to registration is a good idea. Council approved supervisors will need to be monitored in some way.

There must be regular communication with the "competent authorities" about the state of the programmes that they are overseeing. For example if a particular academic institution did not get a good review from the "competent authority" assessing the programme, then graduates from that specific institution should not qualify for registration in NZ until the institution had achieved a sufficiently satisfactory review from the "competent authority" overseeing it.

Page 6: Introduction of the proposed 'Comparable health system' pathway

Q13

Partially support

Do you support the introduction of the 'Comparable health system' pathway for dentists?[Click to learn more about the proposed pathway](#)

Q14

Please tell us why:

Overall, this is a good idea. There are a number of countries from where general dentists could achieve registration through the comparable health system, but not dental specialists. If a comparable health system is good enough for general dentists to gain registration in NZ, then registration to practitioners from these countries should be extended to include dental specialists.

Page 7: Introduction of the proposed 'Teaching and research' pathway

Q15

Partially support

Do you support the introduction of the 'Teaching and research' pathway?[Click to learn more about the proposed pathway](#)

Q16

Please tell us why:

Overall, this is a good idea. Academics are hard to attract and it should be made easier for them to be able to register in NZ. I do not think that there should be a need for continual assessment. After a certain period a practitioner (who has been assessed by their peers) should not need to have ongoing assessment. If the academic falls short of the standard in their assessment, then they would have their registration terminated.

I also think that there should be a pathway to enable an academic to be able to do some clinical practice. This would be done by assessment in some way. I suspect that it would be relatively easy for this to be done by the applicants peers within the academic institution

Page 9: Proposed removal of requirement for a medical degree for oral medicine specialist registration

Q17

No opinion/NA

Do you support removing the requirement for a medical degree for oral medicine specialist registration in New Zealand, subject to the relevant medical training and clinical experiences being embedded into the specialist training programme?[Click to learn more about the proposed changes.](#)

Q18

Please tell us why:

I do not know enough about this. The decision on matters like this are important and should be made by those in the know about the issues involved here.

Page 10: Proposed removal of requirement to register in dental technology before registering in CDT

Q19

No opinion/NA

Do you support removing the requirement to register in dental technology before registering in clinical dental technology? Click to learn more about the proposed changes.

Q20

Please tell us why:

I do not know enough about this

Page 11: Proposed changes to the New Zealand registration examination requirements

Q21

Support

Do you support the proposed changes to the New Zealand registration examination requirements? Click to learn more about the proposed changes.

Q22

Please tell us why:

I believe that it is important that practitioners should have some practical psychomotor clinical skills assessment. If this has not been part of their assessment by the practitioners registering authority in their home country, then it needs to be done before they are registered to practice in NZ.

Page 12: Proposed administrative changes to the prescribed qualifications

Q23

Periodontics

Do you have feedback on the proposed administrative changes to prescribed qualifications for any of the scopes of practice, as reflected in the draft Gazette notices?

Q24

Please tell us your feedback. When discussing multiple scopes, please indicate clearly which scope of practice you are referring to in your comment.

I have no feedback on this

Page 13: Proposed fees for the new registration pathways

Q25

Yes

Do you find the proposed fees for the new registration pathways reasonable? Proposed fee notice

Q26

Please tell us why or why not?

I am sure that the DCNZ has costed this and will charge the fee accordingly

Page 14: Thank you for your time

Q27

Is there any additional feedback you would like to share on the consultation?

It is very important that the DCNZ monitors the standards of the various registering authorities in the countries from where the oral health practitioners who will be eligible for registration under the proposed new pathways for registration will come from. The DCNZ must receive reports from the reviews that the authorities carry out on the dental schools and programmes that train the oral health practitioners who will be eligible for registration under the proposed new pathways for registration. If the standard of any particular dental school is not equivalent to our standards, then that particular country should be suspended from the Competent Authority Pathway or Comparable health systems pathway.

I feel that it will be to NZ's advantage to encourage more oral health practitioners to come although they must be of a high standard.

It is very important that standards are maintained to protect the public. We want the right oral health practitioners, not poorly trained low quality practitioners.

There should also be some monitoring of the number of practitioners. If there was a flood of practitioners coming to NZ leading to unemployment amongst oral health practitioners, that would have a negative impact on the practitioners trained at Otago University.

While I realise that we have no control over the registration of oral health practitioners in other countries, is there any way we can have reciprocation of registration for oral health practitioners? Should this be discussed with other registering authorities if we allow their practitioners to work here.

I also feel that practitioners applying for registration through these pathways need to have a letter of good standing from their registering body.

They should have to be fluent in English.

There should be a probationary period of registration eg 5 years (this would have to be determined by the DCNZ). It is very difficult for the DCNZ to deregister a practitioner. The DCNZ should have a pathway that is easily available to deregister an incompetent or dishonest practitioner.
