



Page 2: About your submission

Q1

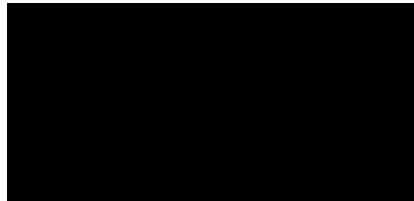
First name

Vivek

Q2

Last name

Mukkagala



Q4

Are you primarily based in New Zealand or overseas?

Overseas,

If overseas, where?:

India

Q5

Company/organisation name

Smile Makers The Dental Lounge

Q6

In what capacity are you making this submission?

Overseas accrediting or registration/licensing body

Page 3: About your submission

Q7

What is your profession?

Respondent skipped this question

Q8 Respondent skipped this question

Please enter your Dental Council Person ID, if applicable

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:

Yes. With over 11 years of clinical experience, I am motivated to practise in a developed healthcare system that emphasises patient safety, evidence based care, and digital dentistry. The proposed changes better recognise experienced overseas practitioners and support their transition into New Zealand practice through proportionate, competency-focused pathways, while maintaining high professional and safety standards.

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

Q11 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:

With over 11 years of clinical experience, I believe this pathway fairly recognises competent, regulated overseas practitioners while maintaining New Zealand's high standards of patient safety. A proportionate, risk-based approach enables skilled dentists to contribute effectively while ensuring appropriate oversight and quality care.

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

Q13 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:

This pathway recognises that high quality dental training and safe clinical practice occur within multiple comparable health systems. By focusing on verified competence, professional governance, and ongoing oversight rather than duplicative examinations, it supports timely workforce integration while fully maintaining New Zealand's standards of patient safety and care quality.

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

Q15

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:

This pathway provides a structured mechanism for experienced dentists to contribute to education, research, and advancement of clinical practice in New Zealand.

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

Q17

Partially support

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

Respondent skipped this question

Please tell us why:

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

Q19

Support

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

Respondent skipped this question

Please tell us why:

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

Respondent skipped this question

Please tell us why:

Page 12: Proposed administrative changes to the prescribed qualifications

Q23

General dental practice

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.

General dental practice. Having over 11 years of experience delivering comprehensive general dental care, I believe the proposed changes provide clarity and proportionality in recognising prescribed qualifications. This supports patient safety, workforce sustainability, and enables experienced practitioners to contribute effectively within New Zealand's high-quality, wellgoverned dental system.

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

Respondent skipped this question

Please tell us why or why not?

Page 14: Thank you for your time

Q27

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

The proposed pathways are a positive and forward looking step for experienced overseas-trained dentists who are motivated to practise safely and to high standards in New Zealand. They encourage skilled practitioners with a genuine commitment to patient safety, continuous learning, and modern dentistry to contribute meaningfully to the New Zealand oral health workforce.
