

November 2025

From the Chair

Dental Council

Te Kaunihera Tiaki Niho

Tēnā koutou,

I would like to personally thank you for your continued service to the oral health and wellbeing of Aotearoa's public. As practitioners, we all play our part to ensure that every patient receives care that is safe, ethical, and maintains that high level of trust in the oral health professions.

Please take the time to read our latest newsletter and annual report. They will inform practitioners who are interested in the work of the Dental Council, in the interest of oral healthcare in Aotearoa New Zealand. I look forward to being in touch regularly to keep you updated on work the Council is delivering.

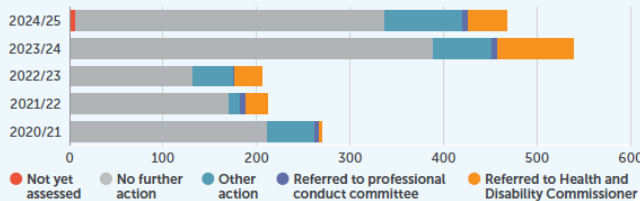


Ngā manaakitanga,

Dr John Bridgman

Chair

Complaint outcomes between 2021–2025



Disciplinary levy – reminder to pay by 20th November

In August 2025, the Council prescribed an additional disciplinary levy for practitioners holding an APC in the dentistry, oral health therapy, dental hygiene, and dental therapy professions. The levy was necessary to meet increased costs due to a significant rise in professional conduct cases across these oral health professions.

Invoices for the levy were issued on 20 October, and the Council takes this opportunity to remind practitioners who haven't yet paid that this is due by 20 November 2025. If you have difficulties paying, please approach our team for time payment options.

[Read more about the levy](#)

Dental Council
Te Kaunihera Tiaki Niho

Annual Report 2024/2025

Dentistry - Oral health therapy - Dental hygiene
Dental therapy - Dental technology - Clinical dental technology



Annual Report 2024/25

We have published our Annual Report 2024/25 which looks back at everything the Council has worked on over the past year, and importantly, what's coming next.

It includes a full audited report on our finances and detailed look at registration and complaints data.

[Read our Annual Report](#)



Ensuring compliance: Practice Standards Audits

Each year, ten percent of each oral health profession is issued with practice standard questionnaires, for Council to be assured of their compliance. This process provides an opportunity for practitioners to understand their obligations and to remedy any areas of non-compliance identified, provided there is no risk to public safety.

[Read the outcomes of Practice Standards Audits](#)

Consultation on registration pathways for overseas practitioners

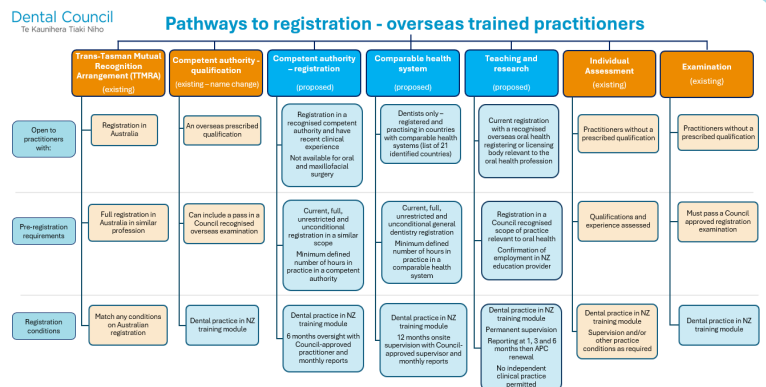
We are currently consulting on three new pathways for registration for overseas-trained practitioners. The proposed changes aim to increase the number of pathways available for registration, enabling skilled practitioners from overseas to join the workforce more quickly and efficiently, without compromising public safety.

As part of the consultation, we're hosting two webinars to answer any questions you may have.

Wednesday 26th November, 5.30-6.30pm

Monday 1st December, 5.30-6.30pm

To register your interest to attend or submit a question, please email consultations@dcnz.org.nz.



[Read and respond to the consultation here](#)

Engagements

Dental Council Chair and Chief Executive engage widely across the sector:

Aug - Nov 2025

7 Aug - Hon Simeon Brown, Minister of Health	23 Sept - Ministry of Health - Allied Health Regulatory Authorities Group	20 Oct - NZ Institute of Dental Technologists
7 Aug - NZ Dental Association, Chief Executive	8 Oct - NZ Association of Orthodontists	21 Oct - Chief Executives Group – Pharmacy, Nursing and Medical Councils
8 Aug - NZ Oral Health Association	8 Oct - University of Otago graduate presentation (<i>representative</i>)	24 Oct - Auckland University of Technology graduate presentation
15 Aug - Ministry of Health Clinical Chief Advisor - Oral Health and Health NZ Clinical Director	10 Oct - Presidents of NZ Dental Association, NZ, NZ Institute of Dental Technologists and NZ Oral Health Association	4 Nov - Ministry of Health Clinical Chief Advisor - Oral Health and Health NZ Clinical Director
	13 Oct - NZ Oral Health Association	