
From: Marie Warner
Sent: Wednesday, 25 May 2016 10:48 a.m.
To: Consultations
Subject: FW: Oral Health Therapy Scope

Hi

This has just come through to Marie, I'll send an acknowledgement response on behalf of her.

Thanks

From: Nafiz Hussein (Dental)
Sent: Wednesday, 25 May 2016 9:30 a.m.
To: Marie Warner
Subject: Oral Health Therapy Scope

Hi Marie,

I would like to thank you for organising the webinar. I do however have a few comments regarding this new Scope of Practice. I hope my concerns can be shared with the committee in charge of implementing this new Scope of Practice.

First of all I would like to acknowledge that I agree with you all that we need a new Oral Health Therapy Scope of Practice. However looking at this new document, the only proposition I do not agree with is the age limiting practice. I do not believe that age should be the deciding factor on whether or not we can treat patients above the age of 18 years. I think that the training we receive should be evidence enough to decide on which procedures we can treat and which we can not. (In your earlier consultations with university coordinators and dental professionals, the question should have been on what training is provided by the Universities in New Zealand and not whether they believed, that we can treat patient over the age of 18 or not. This is what I was told on the day I attended the webinar.)

I would like to discuss a simple scenario, where a 17 year old patient comes into clinic with Class 1 cavity on tooth 46. According to our training, as an oral health therapist, we are more than capable of treating this patient because our training is very thorough and we know how to successfully complete treatment for this patient. Now 2 years later, the same patient (age 19) comes back with a class 1 cavity on 36. How is that we are not able to treat him now? Our training still allows us to treat class 1 cavities and being 2 years older does not hinder in the treatment plan. We treat hygiene patients who are older and therefore we have the knowledge on how to communicate with older patients.

I guess what I am trying to say is that "Age" should not be even considered as a limiting factor when deciding what dental treatments we can or can not do. Yes we can not do Root Canal Treatments and Orthodontics, but we can do examinations, X-rays and simple restorative treatments as per our training which is not age limiting.

Thanking you for allowing me to express my opinion.

Kind Regards

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