
From: Judith Windle
Sent: Friday, 27 May 2016 9:24 a.m.
To: Consultations
Subject: RE: Dental Council response - Oral Health Therapy Scope of Practice consultation

Responses to the Consultation Questions.

Q1: Scope of Practice for Oral Health therapy (Attachment 1, page 17), states "diagnosis", the detailed Scope of Practice for Oral Health Therapy states (page 18), "recognising abnormalities". I believe the education/curriculum content supports the clinician (Oral Health Therapist) has the ability to diagnose, or at the least make a provisional diagnosis and the consultative professional relationship would ensure an accurate diagnosis has been made and an appropriate treatment plan and treatment is carried out. I am in favour of including, "Diagnosing dental caries for patients up to age 18" and "Diagnosing periodontal disease".

Q2: A framework of the obligations of the employing "dentist" should be developed to achieve consistency across all working environments. There is too much room for dispute if the oral health therapist is not a strong personality, perhaps a new graduate, and the dentist is unsure or not fully cognisant of their responsibilities. Past experience, reported to me from time to time, are that in some instances hygienists' have been asked to provide services outside of their scope, but felt powerless to contest the request from their employer. Historically, some dentists have also demonstrated a lack of understanding of Scopes of practice and their responsibilities to their employees.

Q3: I agree with the proposed changes.

Q4 :I agree.

Q5: I agree.

Q6: I agree.

Regards, Judith

Judith L. Windle
CertDentHyg, CertDentTherp, PGCertTertT(Clinical)
Professional Practice Fellow
Department of Oral Sciences
Faculty of Dentistry
P.O. Box 647
Dunedin 9054

From: Consultations [mailto:Consultations@DCNZ.org.nz]
Sent: Monday, 16 May 2016 2:51 p.m.
To: Judith Windle
Subject: Dental Council response - Oral Health Therapy Scope of Practice consultation

Dear Mrs Windle,

Attached please find a response in relation to the oral health therapy scope of practice consultation.

Best regards,
Suzanne

Suzanne Bornman
Standards and Accreditation Manager

Dental Council

www.dcnz.org.nz

CAUTION: This email message and any attachments contain information that is CONFIDENTIAL and may be LEGALLY PRIVILEGED. If you are not the intended recipient any use, any use, disclosure or copying of this message or attachments is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email message in error, please notify the sender immediately and then delete this message and any attachments.