

11 April 2018

Dear practitioner,

### Informed consent - consultation outcome and new practice standard

As a result of the consultation with our stakeholders, the informed consent practice standard has been updated.

The updated informed consent practice standard will come into effect on **14 May 2018**, replacing the current informed consent practice standards. Please familiarise yourself with the updated document before the implementation date.

The final informed consent practice standard is available as Attachment 1.

The Council considered the early implementation date of 14 May 2018 is appropriate as major changes are not required to comply with the updated standard.

### Consultation summary

Consultation took place between November 2017 and February 2018. Thank you to those who took the time to share their concerns and expertise during this time.

A total of 9 formal submissions were received. There was overall agreement on the draft practice standard. The majority of minor refinements proposed were incorporated into the new standard by updating the guidance sections.

The guidance sections were updated as follows:

- Written consent is required for students providing oral health care when treatment is complex and/or for major procedures – in other instances oral consent is considered appropriate.
- The guidance of Standard 8 was updated for practitioners to seek advice or assistance from their colleagues, employer or a lawyer if a welfare guardian or enduring power of attorney refuses consent for necessary treatment, and further delay may seriously impair health outcomes.

If you have any further comments or questions, please do not hesitate to email us at [inquiries@dcnz.org.nz](mailto:inquiries@dcnz.org.nz).

Yours sincerely



Marie Warner  
Chief Executive