



NZAO
Association of Orthodontists

Consultations
Dental Council of New Zealand
PO Box 10-448
Wellington 6143

6 Dec 2019

Dear Council members

Consultation on a Naming Policy under the Health and Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003

The New Zealand Association of Orthodontists (NZAIO) wishes to advise that they support the New Zealand Dental Association's (NZDA) submission on a Naming Policy under the Health and Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.

All members of NZAO are also members of NZDA, and with very few exceptions all orthodontists in New Zealand are members of NZAO.

Point 27 made in the submission by the NZDA is perhaps the most critical to the Naming Policy – being that whilst Parliament has directed that a more transparent process in dealing with practitioners whom have had orders/directions made against them. This does not necessarily equate with naming more practitioners, but rather allows the public to see that due process is being followed.

Parliament, reflecting societies' views, is making increasing demands for transparency of process and outcomes in cases involving practitioners' transgressions. However there needs to be a threshold above which the transgression justifies such action as naming a practitioner because the potential harm to the practitioner and their practice could outweigh the benefit to society.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We look forward to continuing dialogue on this important policy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marguerite Crooks." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr Marguerite Crooks
President, NZAO