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Page 2: Your demographics

Q1 Your details

Name **Andrea Carr**
Company/organisation **[REDACTED]**
City/town **[REDACTED]**
Email **[REDACTED]**

Q2 Your submission is in the capacity as **dental therapist**

Page 3: The proposal

Q3 Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to remove the 18-year age limit for restorative activities from the OHT scope of practice including: accredited, gazetted programmes allowing oral health therapists to perform restorative treatment on patients 18 years and older an exclusion, such as "Restorative treatment on patients 18 years and older", being placed on oral health therapists' scopes of practice until they complete an accredited adult restorative programme which will allow them to apply to have the exclusion removed (noting that the activities registered oral health therapists can currently perform within their scope of practice remain unchanged).

Strongly agree

Page 4: Your support

Q4 Please describe why you support the proposal

This will bring NZ into line with other international countries and allow staff from overseas to enter the NZ workforce as well as allow NZ graduates to travel overseas to gain further experience. It will make it an international qualification. The difference between 17 and an 18 year old is insignificant as are higher ages. It is the scope that becomes important and the training that is undertaken to prepare and support that scope.

Page 5: Your concerns

Q5 Please describe your specific concern/s with the proposal **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 6: Details about OHT scope, qualifications and competencies

Q6 Do you have any specific feedback on the proposed amendments to the OHT scope of practice, prescribed qualifications or competencies as set out in appendices 1 & 2? **Yes**

Page 7: Specific comments on the proposal

Q7 Please provide us specific comments related to the OHT scope, qualifications and competencies.

The OHT is able to perform most action on any age patient, the change asked for is mainly for restorative care for which they are trained and qualified to do. Unless it is of diagnostic significance the age of the tooth and therefore the patient is arbitrary

Page 8: Anything else

Q8 Do you have any further comments on the proposal? **Yes**

Page 10: Last thoughts

Q9 Please provide us your feedback

There are currently many experienced Dental Therapists working on patients up to the age of 18, there has been very little way of gaining an Adult scope although permitted within NZ for DTs. By allowing OHT to gain this scope it will make it more viable for the training providers to run an Adult Scope course for OHT and DT. This would enable NZ to utilise the experience and valuable workforce. OHT or DTs are required to have a working relationship with a Dentist. Any situations that arise outside of a OHT or DTs scope or expertise would be discussed and advice followed from a Dentist.
