



Te Kaunihera  
Rata o  
Aotearoa

**Medical  
Council of  
New Zealand**

PO Box 10509  
Wellington 6140  
New Zealand

+64 4 384 7635  
0800 286 801  
mcnz@mcnz.org.nz  
mcnz.org.nz

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Marie Warner  
Chief Executive  
Dental Council

By email: [consultations@dcnz.org.nz](mailto:consultations@dcnz.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Marie

**Dental Council consultation on proposed updates to professional competencies and changes to related scopes of practice**

Thank you for the opportunity to consider the proposed updates to your professional competencies.

We would like to congratulate you on the work you are doing to give effect to te Tiriti and improve Māori oral health outcomes.

We support your proposed competencies, particularly those that relate to professionalism, communication, and the shift from cultural competence to cultural safety. We think this is an excellent piece of work that aligns with current thinking and research across the health sector. We would like to commend the use of clear, unambiguous language around racism. Noting that te Tiriti and the Treaty are distinctly different documents, an option to distinguish further is use of 'and' rather than a forward slash – te Tiriti o Waitangi and the Treaty of Waitangi, rather than te Tiriti/the Treaty.

We wish you well on this journey.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Joan Simeon  
Chief Executive