

Dr John Lockwood
Chairman, Dental Board of Australia

Friday, 4 May 2018

Re: Scope of Practice Public Consultation

I am appalled that the Dental Board of Australia, the body charged with responsibility for maintaining the high standard of dentistry in Australia and the safety of the public, is considering altering the scope of practice of unqualified practitioners. This action will, if adopted:

- put the well-being of members of the public in grave danger;
- ignore the fact that unless you have been examined and found competent in the diagnostic and treatment planning aspects of dentistry, you do not know what you do not know;
- show a complete lack of respect for the many years my qualified dental colleagues and I have spent in full-time study;
- undermine both my qualifications and my experience;
- ignore the lack of evidence-based research to support these changes.

Frankly, it makes no sense on any level, and I would be grateful if you would contact me to allay my professional concerns.

If more dentists are required, the answer is not to allow inadequately qualified people loose on the public. Clearly, the answer is to train more dentists; but I believe we already have enough dental graduates. I must therefore assume that the push for this injudicious change comes from elsewhere...

Regards



Andrew Cayley

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cc Hugo Sachs, Graham Carmichael