

I write to air my concerns about the draft that has been published regarding proposed changes to the "Scope of Practice" As a dentist with some 35 years experience in treating patients both in general and specialist practice I am aghast at the potential damage to both the profession of dentistry and the public using our service that these changes will deliver.

- 1) The changes do nothing to balance the available workforce against the burden of oral disease in the community.
- 2) A change to the 'registration standard' places a requirement on university curricula to then ensure they match this standard.
- 3) Correct diagnosis of adult patients requires a variety of skill sets, which require 5-7 years to acquire through a dentist's degree. Without this complete skill set accurate diagnosis is not possible.
- 4) The definition of dentistry applying to a dentist is overly restrictive. A dentist's degree provides a core skill set, which allows further evaluation and integration of additional skills. There is no need for an all-inclusive definition of what constitutes dentistry to exist to then be applied to a dentist.

Yours

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