Dr John Lockwood  
Chairman, Dental Board of Australia  

Re: Scope of Practice Public Consultation  

I write to support the Dental Board of Australia's proposed changes to the Scope of Practice Registration Standard. I agree with the Board's Option two – proposed revised registration standard and guidelines.  

I believe a code of conduct is a sensible and accurate way to reflect dental professional’s role. Oral Health Therapists, Hygienist and Dental Therapists are registered practitioners and are formally educated to practise in a competent and ethical manner. All dental practitioners are legally responsible for the outcomes of their treatments already and must only perform dental procedures for which they have been educated and trained and in which they are competent, as per the registration standard and the guidelines. I believe Oral Health Therapists, Hygienists and Therapist will continue to practice in this safe and ethical manner with the Board’s proposed changes are accepted.  

I would support the assignment of provider numbers for these practitioners after the changes are made.  

Again, I would like to express my support for the Dental Board's proposed changes. That is, Option two – proposed revised registration standard and guidelines.  

Regards,  

Katrina Northey  
Oral Health Therapist