Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing about the proposed changes in the scope of practice for dentists.

I can see that the proposed guidelines have been made with good intentions to ensure that dentistry is carried out safely. However I am a bit concerned about the wording.

"Practitioners must only perform dental treatment for which they have been formally educated and trained in programs approved by the Board".

Relatively with the current scope of programs that are approved by the board, most continuing education where the majority of training is derived after acquiring dental registration would not be covered, making education futile as any skills learnt would not be able to be applied. Unfortunately our 'board approved' degree alone is not sufficient in allowing us to keep up with changes in dentistry and shifting schools of to allow for safe practice years to come. Continuing education is essential what is learnt needs to be able to mented, which this proposed scope of practice does not allow.

More there are many courses that are offered overseas that are not offered here. This is only natural the number of dentists in for example, the USA compared to the number of dentists in Australia. The arket overseas means more courses available that we are able to attend however are not necessarily 'ADA approved'.

If this, I believe the wording should be something to the effect of,

"Practitioners must only perform dental treatment:

a) for which they have been educated and trained through either Approved Programs al education programs); Programs to extend scope; CPD Programs (in line with the CPD Registration Standard and lines); or training through practitioners with experience in what is being taught, or

b) in which they are experienced and competent"

I also highlighted my concerns with regard to the expansion of the scope of practice for OHT's in a separate

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Hsu