From: [redacted]
[redacted]
Date: Thursday, 30 May 2013 10:20:55 PM

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my concern regarding proposed changes to the dental board scope of practice, which may extend operating rights of dental therapists to patients of any age.
I currently work alongside a dental therapist and appreciate the current scope of practice they have. She has the expertise to focus her skills on management of our younger patients.

As a general dental practitioner, the ability to examine and treatment plan an adult patient is a privilege which I feel should be restricted to those with a dental degree. There are already circumstances of referral from therapist to dentist for surgical or endodontic procedures, and this mixed care will only increase if therapists are then treating a larger age group. Patients may then be 'spreading' out their treatment between 2 or 3 clinicians. This can then greatly blur the lines for patients between dentist and oral therapist, which I believe should be a distinguished difference.

I hope you will take my opinion into account before finalising the proposal,
Thankyou for your time,
Dr Adeline Akkari