Re: Scope of Practice Public Consultation

I write to express approval over the Dental Board’s proposed changes to the Scope of Practice Registration Standard. In my view, the proposed changes do not pose a significant risk to patients and do not undermine the foundations of the dental team.

However I feel that dental prosthetists need to be included in this change of regulation. Further more, any changes to Scope of practice must be in accordance to the trading of all dental practitioners, for example those dental therapist who were not trained under the bachelor of oral health programme at a university in New Zealand or Australia need to undergo new registration exams.

I also have a few points that need to be considered.

- There needs to be dental practitioners who audit dental practitioners.
- Compulsory registration of CPD
- Clear guidelines for patients to make complaints if or when something goes wrong and that these complaints need to be handled by one organisation with an equal representation of dental professions on their board.

Autonomy and responsibly of care needs to fall on each individual dental professional. In doing so will ensure that the best, quality dental care is provided safely to the Australian public. I strongly support not maintaining the status quo (Option One) as laid out in the consultation.

Regards,

Dr Miriam Tane