To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to express my strong disappointment with the potential changes to the scope of practice of allied dental practitioners. As I understand it the proposal will allow for Oral Health Therapists, Hygienists & Prosthetists to be defined along with Dentists as “Dental Practitioners”. Surely the Board cannot expect that the public will be able to understand the difference in qualifications and knowledge so as to properly choose who to seek treatment from for their dental concerns.

The proposed changes seem to also allow for Therapists to practice unsupervised which will open the door for poor quality diagnosis which could lead to inappropriate treatment inflicted on patients. Those patients with poorer knowledge and education will not question proposed treatment and will end up suffering in the long term.

I urge the Board to strongly reconsider the proposed changes as there is a world of difference in the educational requirements to qualify as a Dentist as opposed to allied dental practitioners and the general public deserve to receive the highest quality dental care from appropriately qualified Dentists or allied dental practitioners.

Yours sincerely
Peter Carr