

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please take in to consideration my views on the upcoming scope of practice review.

1. I do not agree that the revision to the standard will provide greater clarity for dental practitioners to work within their scope of practice. The revision does not take in to account the practitioner's experience, current skills or specific dental focus or specific interests.
2. I do not agree that the introduction of the proposed guidelines supports clarity for the dental practitioners and the public. The public understands and trusts that dental practitioners are university educated to a high level of competency in all aspects of dental practice. To change the guidelines would undermine the general trust and acceptance of this fundamental aspect of dental treatment by a dental professional.
3. The university level dental surgery degree should be the standard to perform all dental treatment. Any dental auxiliaries who would like to perform irreversible treatment beyond their current training should partake of the dental surgery degree to minimize duplicity and wasted resources, minimize public confusion and mistrust due to different dental practitioner levels with overlapping responsibilities and to permit a single and focused professional career path.
4. I do not agree with the list of skills in the guidelines. I believe that the university level dental surgery degree provides sufficient teaching to allow dentists to practice all but the most complex specialist treatments. Specifically, most orthodontics and implantology is well within the abilities of general dentists.
5. The preferred proposal balance needs to acknowledge that the dentistry is a profession and that the knowledge, training and experience gained by practitioners may not be able to be well understood by the general public when they make their decisions and opinions regarding the profession. Being an extremely technical and specialized profession, the only people with adequate knowledge to judge the dental profession with any degree of sufficient understanding of issues involved is the dental profession itself.

Thank you for your attention.

Eugene Lee BDS