

From: Newell Johnson
To: [dentalboardconsultation](#); [Australian Dental Association](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Legislation related to oral health therapists in Australia
Date: Monday, 14 May 2018 7:39:05 AM
Attachments: [Cohen_et_al-2017-Australian_Dental_Journal.pdf](#)
[IJDR_449_17_Final.pdf](#)

I believe we must expand the wider oral health team, because the way to prevent the common oral diseases depends on simple measures: for the majority of the public: improved diet and reasonable oral hygiene with a fluoridated toothpaste.

Dentists, by and large, do not achieve this by the interventions they perform. By and large dentists are excessively interventionist.

In my opinion we need to invert the professional pyramid of workforce and education, with more oral health therapists [and a cadre of integrated primary health workers] and, in time, fewer dentists.

[Of course such expertise, and that of specialists, will always be needed to a relatively minor degree for those with serious disease - mostly in those who have genetic or systemic host defense limitations].

This philosophy is widely published: in my case by the La Cascada Declaration and associated publications.

I therefore cannot agree to the position taken by the ADA, and broadly support the DBA proposals. The critical papers are attached.

Newell Johnson

See published:

[La Cascada Declaration – The Future of Oral Health](#)

<https://lacascada.pressbooks.com/front-matter/introduction/> ▼

La Cascada Declaration. We are concerned that the dental profession, worldwide, has lost its way.

We are a group of senior scientists—researchers, academics and intellectuals—from various parts of the world, with over 250 years' combined experience of working to improve the oral health of communities. The group is ...

[La Cascada Declaration - Wiley Online Library](#)

onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/adj.12546/pdf

by L Cohen -

We met for a few days in March 2017 under the hospitality of Prof Emeritus Alfonso Escobar at his home in the Andes of Colombia, known as **La Cascada** Mare, to share our concerns about the future of dental care and dental education.¹ Each of us prepared a detailed paper of our experiences over the last half century, our ...

[Why a radical overhaul of dentistry is needed Cohen LK, Dahlen G ...](#)

www.ijdr.in/article.asp?issn=0970-9290;year=2017;volume=28;issue=5;...

by LK Cohen - 2017 - [Cited by 1](#) - [Related articles](#)

Oct 25, 2017 - Earlier this year, a group of us met in Colombia to reflect on the future of **dentistry** worldwide. We wanted to understand why oral health of most populations across the world had not improved, except in a few cases, despite massive growth in the number of **dentists** and parodontal cadres trained each year in ...

Emeritus Professor Newell W Johnson, CMG, FMedSci

Honorary Professor of Dental Research, Menzies Health Institute Queensland and School of Dentistry and Oral Health, Griffith University.

**Emeritus Professor, Griffith Institute for Educational Research.
Emeritus Professor of Oral Health Sciences, King's College London**

**Building G40, Room 9.16, Gold Coast Campus,
Griffith University, Queensland 4222, Australia**

<https://www.griffith.edu.au/menzies-health-institute-queensland>

Telephone +61 (0)7 567 89306; Mobile +61 (0)448 954 344

Honorary/Adjunct Professor at: James Cook University, Queensland; Charles Sturt University, New South Wales, Australia; The Tamil Nadu Dr MGR Medical University, India; University of Hong Kong; University of the Western Cape, RSA.

All the logos below are live. Just click them for access.

