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To: [dentalboardconsultation](#)
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To Whom It May Concern

The possibility of dental hygienists and therapists running entirely independent practices is alarming. The most significant part of any treatment plan is a thorough assessment of medical history in particular and a full extraoral, TMJ, soft tissue and dental examination prior to treatment.

Auxiliaries do not have the training to do this. At the very least, the patient should have documentation of a dental examination and treatment plan from a dentist in the last 12 months. Perhaps a certificate of medical fitness for treatment from a GP would go part way to achieving this. For legal cover, the patient should also sign a waiver, acknowledging that they are aware the treatment does not constitute a full dental examination.

If they then choose to have some or all of the treatment done by an axillary, then that is up to them. This would still, however carry the risk of failing to identify or manage any adverse medical event during the treatment.

Yours sincerely
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