



New South Wales

# Dental Practice Amendment (Oral Health Therapists) Regulation 2007

under the

Dental Practice Act 2001

Her Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has made the following Regulation under the *Dental Practice Act 2001*.

REBA MEAGHER, M.P.,  
Minister for Health

## Explanatory note

The object of this Regulation is to amend the *Dental Practice Regulation 2004* as follows:

- (a) to provide for oral health therapists by prescribing:
  - (i) oral health therapists as a class of dental auxiliary for the purposes of registration under the *Dental Practice Act 2001 (the Act)*, and
  - (ii) authorised activities for oral health therapists who are registered under the Act, and
  - (iii) the qualifications that are necessary qualifications for registration as an oral health therapist under the Act,
- (b) to prescribe the application of topical anaesthetics as authorised activities for registered dental hygienists,
- (c) to clarify that the authorised activities for registered dental hygienists and registered dental therapists include dental health education,
- (d) to include certain Bachelor degrees among the qualifications prescribed as necessary qualifications for registration as a dental hygienist or dental therapist under the Act.

This Regulation is made under the *Dental Practice Act 2001*, including sections 19 (1) (c) and (3), 21 (1) (a) and 158 (the general regulation-making power).

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Clause 1                   Dental Practice Amendment (Oral Health Therapists) Regulation 2007

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# **Dental Practice Amendment (Oral Health Therapists) Regulation 2007**

under the

Dental Practice Act 2001

### **1   Name of Regulation**

This Regulation is the *Dental Practice Amendment (Oral Health Therapists) Regulation 2007*.

### **2   Commencement**

This Regulation commences on 30 November 2007.

### **3   Amendment of Dental Practice Regulation 2004**

The *Dental Practice Regulation 2004* is amended as set out in Schedule 1.

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## **Schedule 1      Amendments**

(Clause 3)

**[1]   Clause 6 Dental hygienist activities—section 19**

Insert after clause 6 (h):

- (h1) the application of topical anaesthetics,

**[2]   Clause 6 (o) and (p)**

Insert after clause 6 (n):

- (o) dental health education, including dietary counselling for dental purposes,
- (p) the giving of pre-operative and post-operative instruction.

**[3]   Clause 7 Dental therapist activities—section 19**

Insert after clause 7 (k):

- (l) dental health education, including dietary counselling for dental purposes,
- (m) the giving of pre-operative and post-operative instruction.

**[4]   Clause 7A**

Insert after clause 7:

**7A   Oral health therapists and their activities—section 19**

- (1) For the purposes of section 19 (1) (c) of the Act, oral health therapists are prescribed as a class of dental auxiliary.
- (2) For the purposes of section 19 (3) of the Act, the following activities are, to the extent that the activities constitute restricted dental practices, prescribed as authorised activities for oral health therapists:
  - (a) the assessment of oral health conditions (excluding dental examination and treatment planning) and the recording of periodontal disease,  
**Note.** Dental examination and treatment planning involving dental treatment of children under 18 years of age is prescribed as an authorised activity in paragraph (l) (i) below.
  - (b) the irrigation of the mouth,
  - (c) the insertion and removal of surgical packs,
  - (d) the application and removal of rubber dams,
  - (e) the cleaning and polishing of teeth and restorations,

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#### Schedule 1 Amendments

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- (f) simple prophylaxis,
- (g) the topical application of sealants, fluoride solutions and medicaments,
- (h) the removal of dental calculus not involving surgical techniques requiring incisions,
- (i) root planing,
- (j) the application of topical anaesthetics,
- (k) the giving of supraperiosteal or mandibular nerve block injections of local anaesthetics not involving, in either case, any other regional, intra-osseous or intra-ligamental anaesthesia,
- (l) any of the following activities involving dental treatment of children who are under the age of 18 years:
  - (i) dental examination and treatment planning,
  - (ii) the extraction of primary teeth not involving either surgical techniques or incisions,
  - (iii) the pulp capping of primary or permanent teeth and the pulpotomy of deciduous teeth,
  - (iv) the restoration of primary or permanent teeth, excluding any indirect procedure,
- (m) the removal of sutures,
- (n) the selection of orthodontic bands,
- (o) the removal of orthodontic archwires, bands and attachments,
- (p) dental radiography for dental examination,
- (q) the taking of study model impressions and their pouring up at the written request of a dentist,
- (r) dental health education, including dietary counselling for dental purposes,
- (s) the giving of pre-operative and post-operative instruction.

#### [5] Clause 9A

Insert after clause 9:

#### 9A Qualifications for registration as an oral health therapist

For the purposes of section 21 (1) (a) of the Act, the qualifications listed in Schedule 3A are prescribed as necessary qualifications for registration as an oral health therapist.

**[6] Schedule 2 Qualifications for registration as a dental hygienist**

Insert after paragraph (d):

(d1) Bachelor of Oral Health, Griffith University, Queensland,

**[7] Schedule 2, paragraphs (e1) and (e2)**

Insert after paragraph (e):

(e1) Bachelor of Oral Health, University of Newcastle, New South Wales,  
(e2) Bachelor of Oral Health, University of Sydney, New South Wales,

**[8] Schedule 3 Qualifications for registration as a dental therapist**

Insert after paragraph (c):

(c1) Bachelor of Oral Health, Griffith University, Queensland,

**[9] Schedule 3, paragraph (d1)**

Insert after paragraph (d):

(d1) Bachelor of Oral Health, University of Sydney, New South Wales,

**[10] Schedule 3A**

Insert after Schedule 3:

**Schedule 3A Qualifications for registration as an oral health therapist**

(Clause 9A)

The following qualifications are prescribed as necessary qualifications for registration as an oral health therapist:

(a) Bachelor of Applied Health Science (Oral Health), University of Queensland, Queensland,  
(b) Bachelor of Oral Health, Griffith University, Queensland,  
(c) Bachelor of Oral Health, University of Adelaide, South Australia,  
(d) Bachelor of Oral Health, University of Newcastle, New South Wales if any of the qualifications listed in Schedule 3 has also been conferred or awarded,  
(e) Bachelor of Oral Health, University of Sydney, New South Wales.

BY AUTHORITY