

8 February 2008

## Who is allowed to do what?

The GDC is consulting on draft guidance on the scope of practice of all members of the dental team as well as issues around dental nurse and dental technician registration.

The scope of practice guidance outlines the skills that dentists and dental care professionals should have at the point of qualification as well as suggesting additional skills that each group could go on to achieve during their career. The aim is to clarify for patients and members of the dental team what different dental professionals are, or are not, allowed to do.

The Council is asking for views on the skills that:

- each registrant group should have at the point of qualification;
- each registrant group may develop throughout their career; and
- should be 'reserved' to particular registrant groups.

The consultation also seeks views on which members of the dental team should be able to carry out tooth whitening, and whether treatments such as Botox, collagen fillers and bone harvesting should be recognised as part of dentistry.

Issues around the registration of dental technicians and dental nurses are also explored in the consultation document. Views are sought on questions such as:

- the definition of 'in training' for dental technicians and dental nurses; and
- who can do what in an emergency?

The consultation document is available on the GDC website at [www.gdc-uk.org](http://www.gdc-uk.org). The closing date for responses is 9 May 2008.

## Ends

For media enquiries, please contact Rachel Lea on 020 7009 2782 or email [rlea@gdc-uk.org](mailto:rlea@gdc-uk.org).

## Notes to editors:

1. The 'Scope of Practice' consultation document is available on the GDC website at:

<http://www.gdc-uk.org/News+publications+and+events/Consultations/Current+consultations/Scope+of+Practice+Consultation.htm>

For a hard copy of the consultation document, or more information on the consultation, please contact Stephanie Lenn at [scopeofpractice@gdc-uk.org](mailto:scopeofpractice@gdc-uk.org) or on 020 7009 2775.