



### **BSDHT in Skills Analysis project with FGDP (UK)**

The role of the dental hygienist has changed considerably since it first appeared, and never more so than when, in the 1990's, the breadth of knowledge and skill required to fulfil the role was extended, new permitted duties introduced and then later our scope of practice extended. Now, most training schools qualify their students with a dual qualification in both dental hygiene and dental therapy.

In a collaborative project we're running with the Faculty of General Dental Practitioners (UK) around 10% of those on the General Dental Council's DCP register with a dental hygiene or dental hygiene-therapy qualification will take part in the survey, when they will be asked to comment on their initial education and training, postgraduate studies and how the skills they have acquired are utilised on a day to day basis.

The survey results will provide us with a better understanding of the variety of skills, knowledge and expertise of those currently fulfilling the role, and not only help us identify training needs for which courses can be designed and delivered, but also develop future opportunities for dental hygienists & dental hygienist-therapists.

The results of the survey will be reported at meetings and conferences of both BSDHT and FGDP (UK), in various publications including *Dental Health* and *Primary Dental Care*, and on our website.

For those of you asked to take part - please do so, and thank you in anticipation of your support and contribution.

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