

On behalf of the OT Registration Board of the NT I wish to make the following comments on the Consultation Paper on Proposed Supervision Guidelines.

As a Board in a jurisdiction with a large rural and remote region we have a particular concern for occupational therapists who live and/or work in the more remote areas.

In this instance we have particular concern about Direct Supervision. In the Northern Territory many OTs work in sole positions. Even OTs who are based with other OTs often work as if they are sole therapists due to the requirement to work in remote locations away from other OTs, and there is little scope for direct supervision. Some OTs are based remotely and have minimal direct contact with other OTs. One would hope that OTs who require direct supervision would not be appointed to such positions but it is always a possibility particularly when there is difficulty recruiting to positions. While technology could be used to provide some direct supervision our experience is that this does not always work when you need it.

I would like to congratulate the National Board for the work that they have done over the past 12months.

Margaret Petherick

Chair

OT Registration Board NT

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15 June 2012