

## CHAPTER 4 DENTAL PRACTICE

Section 1. Practice of Dentistry. The following rules and regulations apply to the Practice of Dentistry:

- (a) The dentist has the responsibility for the quality of dentistry performed in his office, regardless of whether it is performed by him personally or by auxiliaries working under his supervision.
- (b) Each dentist is responsible for maintaining a high level of proficiency in the practice of dentistry and for keeping up with current educational standards of the profession.
- (c) A dentist shall not advertise in any way that is false or misleading in any material respect.
- (d) A dentist should be willing to aid any of his colleagues, but should have uppermost in his mind the protection of the general public and should report gross and/or recurring improprieties to the proper board or agency.
- (e) Any dentist who is suffering from a disease or condition that adversely affects the quality of his work shall notify the board through its secretary.
- (f) Dentists will practice in accordance with the most recently adopted Code of Ethics and Principles of Practice of the Wyoming Board of Dental Examiners.
- (g) Satellite offices: When a dentist is the proprietor of more than one (1) office, he shall designate one (1) as his main office; all others shall be termed satellite offices. Satellite offices shall abide by the same rules and regulations as the main office.
- (h) Radiograph use permits: After July 1, 1991, all dental x-ray machines must be inspected by a board approved Medical/Health Physicist qualified to inspect such machines. These units shall be inspected every five (5) years. No fee is charged by the board. Dentists are responsible to contract directly with an approved inspector who in turn will submit to the secretary of the dental board the pass/fail results of all equipment inspected. Upon notification that units have passed the safety inspection, a dated sticker will be issued from the board secretary. Machines failing inspection must have a copy of the work order showing satisfactory repair completed sent to the secretary's office.

Section 2. Continuing Education. For annual relicensure, each dentist and hygienist shall have completed the continuing education required to renew basic life support, which includes written testing and successful mannequin evaluation for adult, child and infant. Dentists and Dental Hygienists are expected to complete continuing education activities designed to

4-1 contribute directly to the professional competence of the dentist and dental hygienist, or patient care rendered by the dentist and dental hygienist.

(a) Requirements:

(i) Each dentist and dental hygienist shall have completed the continuing education required to renew basic life support, which includes written testing and successful mannequin evaluation for adult, child and infant.

(ii) Dentists and dental hygienists shall complete and maintain records of a minimum of ten continuing education credits yearly, not including CPR/basic life support. The continuing education cycle shall be the same as the license renewal cycle.

(iii) One continuing education credit will be recognized for each sixty minutes of involvement. Credit will not be earned for time spent at coffee, lunch breaks or business meetings.

(iv) Course work towards advanced dental and dental hygiene degrees is acceptable if it relates to clinical competence.

(v) Acceptable sponsors for continuing education credit include:

(A) Professional dental, dental hygiene and related organizations, i.e. ADA/CERP, AGD/PACE, ADHA, WDA, WDHA, AADB, CDC, OSHA, AAP, regional licensing boards, other state's related professional associations.

(B) Accredited educational institutions (vi) Limitations

(A) Independent study – 4 hours per year (B) Interpersonal skills – 2 hours per year

(vii) Courses that are unacceptable for continuing education credit include, but are not necessarily limited to:

(A) Dental product company or similar source presentations unless pre- approved by the WBDE.

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(B) Self-help presentations (C) Legislative and/or political presentations (D) Unproven modalities or experimental techniques courses

(b) Reporting procedures (i) Continuing education credits may not be carried over from one year to the

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(ii) Dentists and dental hygienists are required to keep a certificate of attendance/completion for the previous seven years.

(iii) Dentists and dental hygienists shall affirm their understanding of and compliance with continuing education requirements on their license renewal form.

(c) Exemptions and Exceptions

(i) Dentists and dental hygienists whose capacity to meet the continuing education requirements is restricted due to ill health or other extenuating circumstances may apply, in writing, to the Board for special consideration.

(ii) Dentists and dental hygienists who obtain licensure during a continuing education cycle will be exempt until the next cycle begins.

(d) Effective date

(i) Dentists and dental hygienists shall begin obtaining their continuing education credits during 2012, such that ten hours are complete by December 31, 2012. Renewal requirements for the 2013 dentist and dental hygienist license shall include ten hours of continuing education credit and compliance with the CPR/basic life support requirement.

## **CHAPTER 7 DENTAL AUXILIARIES/AUXILIARIES**

Section 1. Dental Auxiliary Personnel. The following applies to dental auxiliary personnel generally:

(a) No irreversible procedures may be conducted by any dental auxiliary personnel unless otherwise specified.

Section 2. Practice of Dental Hygiene and Supervision Required. The following applies to the practice of Dental Hygiene:

(b)(a) A dental hygienist shall work under the supervision of a qualified, licensed dentist.

(a)(b) Each dental hygienist is responsible for maintaining a high degree of proficiency in the practice of dental hygiene which is consistent and for keeping up with current educational standards of the profession.

(c) Dental hygienists may work in the private office of a licensed dentist, in the Armed Forces of the United States, in federal or state institutions, and nursing or retirement facilities.

(d) Dental hygienists are encouraged to promote oral health through lectures. They may accomplish this through presentation talks to schools, institutions, groups, or individuals when asked. In no event should these presentation appearances be used for the purpose of advertising or soliciting patients for himself/herself or a dentist.

(e) The following is a list of procedures that may be performed by a dental hygienist and the type of supervision required:

(i) General Supervision:

(A) Community dental health activities.

(B) Functions that are authorized for dental assistants set forth in rules or prescribed duties promulgated by the board.

(C) Root plane, scale and polish  
Scaling and polishing of teeth. (D) Polishing amalgams and composites.  
(E) Conduct Screening examination of the oral cavity for oral disease. (F) Placement of temporary fillings which require no removal of tooth

7-1 structure.

above duties.

(G) Root planing. (H)(G) Place, and expose and process radiographs. (I) Process radiographs. (H) Place pit and fissure sealants (J)(I) Perform any related procedures required in the practice of the

(J) Apply Subgingival anesthetic (i.e. oragix), if the hygienist holds a local anesthetic expanded duty certificate.

(ii) Indirect Supervision: (A) Place pit and fissure sealants

(iii)(ii) Direct Supervision: (A) Preparing, placing, and removing  
Prepare, place and remove  
periodontal packs.

(B) Removal of Remove overhanging margins.

(C) Treatment of Treat diagnosed dry sockets

(D) Treatment of Treat diagnosed pericoronitis.

(E) Expanded dental duties are to be performed under the direct supervision of a qualified dentist. Whitening procedures

(F) Use of lasers for treatment of periodontal disease or other soft or hard tissue conditions after successful completion of an ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) approved program with a course on the subject.

Section 3. Expanded Dental Duties. (a) Expanded dental duties are to be performed under the direct supervision of a qualified dentist.

(a)(b) A dental hygienist must meet educational standards and pass an examination approved by the Board, in a manner satisfactory to the Board, for which an expanded duty certificate will be issued for that specific duty to obtain an expanded duty certificate.

(b)(c) Training programs will be approved in advance in writing by the Board. Due to the varied programs, individual courses will require individual approval after course content is reviewed by the Board.

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(c)(d) The following is a list of accepted expanded duties:

(i) Administration of Administer local anesthetics.

(ii) Administration and monitoring of Administer and monitor nitrous oxide/oxygen sedationanalgesia.

(iii) Any present licenses held for placing, carving and finishing amalgams and composites will be grandfathered in.

(iii) Place, carve and finish amalgam and composite restorations for existing certificate holders. No new certificates are being granted at this time.

(d)(e) The candidate will be required to provide proof, in writing, directly from the course administrator, satisfactory completion of the expanded function course for which the candidate was trained.

(e)(f) An oralin-person evaluation for certification of expanded duties may be required by the Board to ascertain the candidate's knowledge of the duties that the candidate wishes to be certified to perform.

Section 4. Dental Assistants. The following applies to all dental assistants:

(a) A dentist holding a current Wyoming license may employ persons designated as "Dental Assistants". They may be trained by their employer or by an accredited school for dental assistants.

(b) The following is a list of procedures that may be performed by dental assistants and the type of supervision required:

(i) General Supervision: (A) Take vital statistics and health histories. (B) Mix dental materials to be used by the dentist. (C)(B) Instruct patients in proper dental health care. (C)(D) Process radiographs. (D) Fabricate and cement temporary crowns.

(ii) Indirect Supervision:

(A) Take study model impressions other than final or master impressions.

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(B) Apply topical medications, excluding pit and fissure sealants.

(C) Mix dental materials to be used by the dentist.

(C)(D) Place and expose radiographs if the criteria set forth in Section 5 of this Chapter have been met. Place radiographs, but exposure may only be permitted if the criteria set forth in Section 5 of this Chapter have been met.

(iii)

dental assistants:

Direct Supervision: (A) Remove sutures. (B) Assist the dentist in all operative and surgical procedures. (C) Place and remove rubber dams. (D) Place and remove matrices. (E) Remove excess cement from the coronal surfaces of the teeth. (F) Prepare and remove periodontal packs. (G) Polish the surfaces of the teeth, rubber cup only. (H) Whitening procedures (H)(I) Orthodontic procedures involving the following:

1. Tying Tie ligature wires and/or place elastic ties.
2. Removing of Remove ligature wire and/or elastic ties.
3. Placement and removal ofPlace and remove orthodontic wires and/or appliances that have been activated by the dentist.
4. TakeTaking impressions for orthodontic retainers and removable orthodontic appliances.
5. Removal ofRemove orthodontic bands. 6. Placement and removal ofPlace and remove orthodontic separators. (I)(J) The following orthodontic procedures may not be performed by

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hygienist:

1. Removal of Remove tooth structure for the placement of orthodontic

(J)(K)

appliances.

2. 3. 4. Procedures that must be done by a licensed dentist or dental

Activate an orthodontic appliance. Diagnosis Diagnose for orthodontic treatment. Remove direct bond attachments.

1. Any procedure billed as a prophylaxis.

Section 5. Placement and Exposure of Radiographs by Dental Assistants. As of July 1, 1991, permits to place and expose radiographs by dental assistants under the indirect supervision of a licensed dentist will be issued after one of the following requirements are (is) satisfied:

(a) The assistant has completed an American Dental Association or Board approved course in dental radiography.

(b) The assistant has at least three (3) years experience with a minimum of 1000 hours per year in the last four (4) years before July 1, 1990, and can demonstrate proficiency.

(c) The assistant is engaged in a course for radiologic technology, dental hygiene or dental assisting on July 1, 1990, who has completed the course or has completed a twenty-four (24) month course in radiologic technology within two (2) years before July 1, 1990, and can demonstrate proficiency.

(d) The assistant has been licensed by other states or certifying groups whose requirements are at least as stringent as those set forth by these rules.

(e) A dental assistant should complete a course of instruction approved in accordance with the requirements of this section. The Board shall accept, in lieu of such course, the satisfactory completion of the certification examination given by the American Dental Assistants Association National Board, Inc. and any educational requirements as may be recommended by the Board.

The applicant must provide proof of satisfactory completion of a requirement, along with proof of lawful presence. Both must be sent directly to the Board office prior to issuance of permit.

Section 6. Code of Ethics for Dental Auxiliaries. Each dental hygienist practicing in the state of Wyoming shall subscribe to the following:

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(a) To provide oral health care utilizing highest professional knowledge, judgment, and ability.

(b) To serve all patients without discrimination.

(c) To hold professional patient relationships in confidence.

(d) To utilize every opportunity to increase public understanding of oral health practices.

(e) To generate public confidence in members of the dental health profession. (f) To cooperate with all health professions in meeting the health needs of the public. (g) To recognize and uphold the laws and regulations governing this profession. (h) To maintain professional competence through continuing education. (i) To exchange professional knowledge with other health professions. (j) To represent dental hygiene with high standards of personal conduct.