

650—10.4 (153) Unauthorized practice of a dental hygienist. A dental hygienist who assists a dentist in practicing dentistry in any capacity other than as an employee or independent contractor supervised by a licensed dentist or who directly or indirectly procures a licensed dentist to act as nominal owner, proprietor, director, or supervisor of a practice as a guise or subterfuge to enable such dental hygienist to engage in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene or who renders dental service(s) directly or indirectly on or for members of the public other than as an employee or independent contractor supervised by a licensed dentist shall be deemed to be practicing illegally.

10.4(1) The unauthorized practice of dental hygiene means allowing a person not licensed in dentistry or dental hygiene to perform dental hygiene services authorized in Iowa Code section 153.15 and rule 650—10.3(153).

10.4(2) The unauthorized practice of dental hygiene also means the performance of services by a dental hygienist that exceeds the scope of practice granted in Iowa Code section 153.15.

10.4(3) A dental hygienist shall not practice independent from the supervision of a dentist nor shall a dental hygienist establish or maintain an office or other workplace separate or independent from the office or other workplace in which the supervision of a dentist is provided.

10.4(4) Students enrolled in dental hygiene programs. Students enrolled in an accredited dental hygiene program are not considered to be engaged in the unlawful practice of dental hygiene provided that such practice is in connection with their regular course of instruction and meets the following:

a. The practice of clinical skills on peers enrolled in the same program must be under the direct supervision of a program instructor with an active Iowa dental hygiene license, Iowa faculty permit, or Iowa dental license;

b. The practice of clinical skills on members of the public must be under the general supervision of a dentist with an active Iowa dental license;

c. The practice of clinical skills involving the administration or monitoring of nitrous oxide or the administration of local anesthesia must be under the direct supervision of a dentist with an active Iowa dental license.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 147.10, 147.57 and 153.15.

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