

650—10.3 (153) Authorized practice of a dental hygienist.

10.3(1) “Practice of dental hygiene” as defined in Iowa Code section 153.15 means the performance of the following educational, therapeutic, preventive and diagnostic dental hygiene procedures which are delegated by and under the supervision of a dentist licensed pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 153.

a. Educational. Assessing the need for, planning, implementing, and evaluating oral health education programs for individual patients and community groups; conducting workshops and in-service training sessions on dental health for nurses, school personnel, institutional staff, community groups and other agencies providing consultation and technical assistance for promotional, preventive and educational services.

b. Therapeutic. Identifying and evaluating factors which indicate the need for and performing (1) oral prophylaxis, which includes supragingival and subgingival debridement of plaque, and detection and removal of calculus with instruments or any other devices; (2) periodontal scaling and root planing; (3) removing and polishing hardened excess restorative material; (4) administering local anesthesia with the proper permit; (5) administering nitrous oxide inhalation analgesia in accordance with 650—subrules 29.6(4) and 29.6(5); (6) applying or administering medicaments prescribed by a dentist, including chemotherapeutic agents and medicaments or therapies for the treatment of periodontal disease and caries; (7) removal of adhesives.

c. Preventive. Applying pit and fissure sealants and other medications or methods for caries and periodontal disease control; organizing and administering fluoride rinse or sealant programs.

d. Diagnostic. Reviewing medical and dental health histories; performing oral inspection; indexing dental and periodontal disease; preliminary charting of existing dental restorations and teeth; making occlusal registrations for mounting study casts; testing pulp vitality; analyzing dietary surveys.

e. The following services may only be delegated by a dentist to a dental hygienist: administration of local anesthesia, placement of sealants, and the removal of any plaque, stain, calculus, or hard natural or synthetic material except by toothbrush, floss, or rubber cup coronal polish.

10.3(2) All authorized services provided by a dental hygienist shall be performed under the general, direct, or public health supervision of a dentist currently licensed in the state of Iowa in accordance with 650—1.1(153) and 650—10.5(153).

10.3(3) Under the general or public health supervision of a dentist, a dental hygienist may provide educational services, assessment, screening, or data collection for the preparation of preliminary written records for evaluation by a licensed dentist. A dentist is not required to examine a patient prior to the provision of these dental hygiene services.

10.3(4) The administration of local anesthesia or nitrous oxide inhalation analgesia shall only be provided under the direct supervision of a dentist.

10.3(5) All other authorized services provided by a dental hygienist to a new patient shall be provided under the direct or public health supervision of a dentist. An examination by the dentist must take place during an initial visit by a new patient, except when hygiene services are provided under public health supervision.

10.3(6) Subsequent examination and monitoring of the patient, including definitive diagnosis and treatment planning, is the responsibility of the dentist and shall be carried out in a reasonable period of time in accordance with the professional judgment of the dentist based upon the individual needs of the patient.

10.3(7) General supervision shall not preclude the use of direct supervision when in the professional judgment of the dentist such supervision is necessary to meet the individual needs of the patient.

10.3(8) Expanded function requirements.

a. Supervision requirements. A dental hygienist may only perform expanded function procedures which are delegated by and performed under the supervision of a dentist licensed pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 153. The taking of occlusal registrations for purposes other than mounting study casts may be performed under general supervision; all other expanded function procedures shall be performed under direct supervision.

b. Expanded function training required. A dental hygienist shall not perform any expanded function procedures listed in this chapter unless the dental hygienist has successfully met the education and training requirements and is in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

c. Education and training requirements. All expanded function training must be prior-approved by the board. The supervising dentist and the dental hygienist shall be responsible for maintaining in each office of practice documentation of successful completion of the board-approved training.

(1) Expanded function training for Level 1 procedures shall be eligible for board approval if the training is offered through a program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (ADA) or another program, which may include on-the-job training offered by a dentist licensed in Iowa. Training must consist of the following:

1. An initial assessment to determine the base entry level of all participants in the program;
2. A didactic component;
3. A laboratory component, if necessary;
4. A clinical component, which may be obtained under the personal supervision of the participant's supervising dentist while the participant is concurrently enrolled in the training program; and
5. A postcourse competency assessment at the conclusion of the training program.

(2) Expanded function training for Level 2 procedures shall be eligible for board approval if the training is offered through the University of Iowa College of Dentistry or a program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.

10.3(9) Expanded function providers.

a. Basic expanded function provider. Dental hygienists who do not wish to become certified as a Level 1 or Level 2 provider may perform select Level 1 expanded function procedures provided they have met the education and training requirements for those procedures and are in compliance with the requirements of this chapter. A dentist may delegate to a dental hygienist only those Level 1 procedures for which the dental hygienist has received the required expanded function training.

b. Certified Level 1 provider. A dental hygienist must successfully complete training for all Level 1 expanded function procedures before becoming a certified Level 1 provider.

(1) A dentist may delegate any of the Level 1 expanded function procedures to a dental hygienist who is a certified Level 1 provider.

(2) Level 1 procedures include:

1. Taking occlusal registrations for purposes other than mounting study casts;
2. Placement and removal of gingival retraction;
3. Fabrication and removal of provisional restorations;
4. Applying cavity liners and bases and bonding systems for restorative purposes; and
5. Taking final impressions.

c. Certified Level 2 provider. A dental hygienist must become a certified Level 1 provider and successfully pass a board-approved entrance examination with a score of at least 75 percent before beginning training to become a certified Level 2 provider. A dental hygienist must successfully complete training for all Level 2 expanded function procedures before becoming a certified Level 2 provider.

(1) A dentist may delegate any of the Level 1 or Level 2 expanded function procedures to a dental hygienist who is a certified Level 2 provider.

(2) Level 2 procedures include:

1. Placement and shaping of amalgam following preparation of a tooth by a dentist;
2. Placement and shaping of composite following preparation of a tooth by a dentist;
3. Forming and placement of stainless steel crowns;
4. Taking records for the fabrication of dentures and partial dentures; and
5. Tissue conditioning (soft reline only).

These procedures refer to both primary and permanent teeth.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 153.15.

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