

**650—27.11 (153,272C) Record keeping.** Dentists shall maintain patient records in a manner consistent with the protection of the welfare of the patient. Records shall be permanent, timely, accurate, legible, and easily understandable.

**27.11(1) Dental records.** Dentists shall maintain dental records for each patient. The records shall contain all of the following:

*a. Personal data.*

- (1) Name, date of birth, address and, if a minor, name of parent or guardian.
- (2) Name and telephone number of person to contact in case of emergency.

*b. Dental and medical history.* Dental records shall include information from the patient or the patient's parent or guardian regarding the patient's dental and medical history. The information shall include sufficient data to support the recommended treatment plan.

*c. Patient's reason for visit.* When a patient presents with a chief complaint, dental records shall include the patient's stated oral health care reasons for visiting the dentist.

*d. Clinical examination progress notes.* Dental records shall include chronological dates and descriptions of the following:

- (1) Clinical examination findings, tests conducted, and a summary of all pertinent diagnoses;
- (2) Plan of intended treatment and treatment sequence;
- (3) Services rendered and any treatment complications;
- (4) All radiographs, study models, and periodontal charting, if applicable;
- (5) Name, quantity, and strength of all drugs dispensed, administered, or prescribed; and
- (6) Name of dentist, dental hygienist, or any other auxiliary, who performs any treatment or service or who may have contact with a patient regarding the patient's dental health.

*e. Informed consent.* Dental records shall include, at a minimum, documentation of informed consent that includes discussion of procedure(s), treatment options, potential complications and known risks, and patient's consent to proceed with treatment.

**27.11(2) Retention of records.** A dentist shall maintain a patient's dental record for a minimum of six years after the date of last examination, prescription, or treatment. Records for minors shall be maintained for a minimum of either (a) one year after the patient reaches the age of majority (18), or (b) six years, whichever is longer. Study models and casts shall be maintained for six years after the date of completion of treatment. Alternatively, one year after completion of treatment, study models and casts may be provided to the patient for retention. Proper safeguards shall be maintained to ensure safety of records from destructive elements.

**27.11(3) Electronic record keeping.** The requirements of this rule apply to electronic records as well as to records kept by any other means. When electronic records are kept, a dentist shall keep either a duplicate hard copy record or use an unalterable electronic record.

**27.11(4) Correction of records.** Notations shall be legible, written in ink, and contain no erasures or white-outs. If incorrect information is placed in the record, it must be crossed out with a single nondeleting line and be initialed by a dental health care worker.

**27.11(5) Confidentiality and transfer of records.** Dentists shall preserve the confidentiality of patient records in a manner consistent with the protection of the welfare of the patient. Upon request of the patient or patient's legal guardian, the dentist shall furnish the dental records or copies or summaries of the records, including dental radiographs or copies of the radiographs that are of diagnostic quality, as will be beneficial for the future treatment of that patient. The dentist may charge a nominal fee for duplication of records, but may not refuse to transfer records for nonpayment of any fees.