

## Chapter DE 3

### PRACTICE OF DENTAL HYGIENE

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Note: Chapter DE 3 as it existed on February 28, 1982 was repealed and a new chapter DE 3 was created effective March 1, 1982.

**DE 3.01 Supervision.** A dental hygienist shall practice under the supervision of a licensed dentist in a dental facility or a facility specified in s. 447.08 (4), Stats., if applicable.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1982, No. 314, eff. 3-1-82.

**DE 3.02 Practice of dental hygiene defined.**  
(1) Those practices a dental hygienist may perform while a dentist is present in the dental facility include:

- (a) Performing complete prophylaxis which may include:
  1. Removing calcareous deposits, accretions and stains from the surface of teeth;
  2. Performing deep periodontal scaling, including root planing;
  3. Polishing natural and restored tooth surfaces.
- (b) Placing temporary restorations in teeth in emergency situations.

(c) Placing in an oral cavity:

1. Rubber dams; and
2. Periodontal surgical dressings.

(d) Removing from an oral cavity:

1. Rubber dams;
2. Periodontal surgical dressings; and
3. Sutures.

(e) Removing excess cement from teeth, inlays, crowns, bridges and fixed orthodontic appliances.

(2) Those practices a dental hygienist may perform whether or not a dentist is present in the dental facility include:

- (a) Preparing specimens for dietary or salivary analysis;
- (b) Taking impressions for and fabricating study casts and opposing casts;
- (c) Making and processing dental radiograph exposures;
- (d) Conducting a preliminary examination of the oral cavity and surrounding structures which may include preparing case histories and recording clinical findings for the dentist to review;

(e) Providing prevention measures, including application of fluorides and other topical agents approved by the American dental association for the prevention of oral disease.

(3) A dental hygienist shall report clinical findings made in the practice of dental hygiene to the supervising dentist.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1982, No. 314, eff. 3-1-82.

**DE 3.03 Prohibited practices.** A dental hygienist may not:

- (1) Administer or prescribe, either narcotic or analgesics or systemic-affecting nonnarcotic drugs, or anesthetics.
- (2) Place or adjust dental appliances.
- (3) Diagnose any condition of the hard or soft tissues of the oral cavity or prescribe treatment to modify normal or pathological conditions of the tissues.
- (4) Place and carve restorations, except as specified in s. DE 3.02 (1) (b).

History: Cr. Register, February, 1982, No. 314, eff. 3-1-82.

**DE 3.04 Oral systemic premedications and subgingival sustained release chemotherapeutic agents.**

(1) "Oral systemic premedications" means antibiotics that are administered orally to patients prior to providing dental or dental hygiene services in order to mitigate against the risk of patients developing a bacterial infection.

(2) "Subgingival sustained release chemotherapeutic agents" means medications that are applied under the gum tissue in periodontal pockets to treat periodontal or gum disease.

(3) A dentist may delegate to a dental hygienist the administration of oral systemic premedications and subgingival sustained release chemotherapeutic agents to patients only if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The administration is performed pursuant to a treatment plan for the patient approved by a dentist.

(b) A dentist remains on the premises in which the administration is performed and is available to the patient throughout the completion of the appointment.

History: Cr. Register, September, 2000, No. 537, eff. 10-1-00.