

## Chapter DE 3

### PRACTICE OF DENTAL HYGIENE

DE 3.01 Supervision.  
DE 3.02 Practice of dental hygiene defined.  
DE 3.03 Prohibited practices.

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

**Note:** Chapter DE 3 as it existed on February 28, 1982 was repealed and a new chapter DE 3 was created effective March 1, 1982.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. 447.06 (2), Stats., if applicable.

**History:** Cr. Register, February, 1982, No. 314, eff. 3-1-82; correction made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats., Register August 2006 No. 608.

**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 except as provided under ch. DE 15.

(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; **CR 15-056: am. (1) Register February 2016 No. 722, eff. 3-1-16.**

**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.