

ARTICLE 20-04

DENTAL HYGIENISTS

Chapter
20-04-01 Duties

CHAPTER 20-04-01 DUTIES

Section	
20-04-01-01	Duties
20-04-01-02	Prohibited Services
20-04-01-03	Duties of Dental Hygienists
20-04-01-04	Additional Requirements for Licensure by Examination
20-04-01-05	Additional Requirements for Licensure by Credential Review
20-04-01-06	Additional Requirements for Applications
20-04-01-07	Inactive Status - License Reinstatement
20-04-01-08	Continuing Dental Education for Dental Hygienists

20-04-01-01. Duties. A dental hygienist may perform the following services under the general, direct, or indirect supervision of a dentist:

1. Complete prophylaxis to include removal of accumulated matter, deposits, accretions, or stains from the natural and restored surfaces of exposed teeth. The dental hygienist may also do root planing and soft tissue curettage upon direct order of the dentist.
2. Polish and smooth existing restorations.
3. Apply topical applications of drugs to the surface tissues of the mouth and to exposed surfaces of the teeth, including anticariogenic agents and desensitizing solutions.
4. Take impressions for study casts.
5. Take and record preliminary medical and dental histories for the interpretation by the dentist.
6. Take and record pulse, blood pressure, and temperature.
7. Provide oral hygiene treatment planning.
8. Take dental radiographs.
9. Apply therapeutic agents subgingivally for the treatment of periodontal disease.

10. Hold impression trays in the mouth after placement by a dentist (e.g., reversible hydrocolloids, rubber base, etc.).
11. Receive removable dental prosthesis for cleaning and repair.
12. Dry root canal with paper points.
13. Place and remove rubber dams.
14. Place and remove matrix bands or wedges.
15. Take occlusal bite registration for study casts.
16. Place retraction cord in the gingival sulcus of a prepared tooth prior to the dentist taking an impression of the tooth.
17. Fabricate, adjust, place, recement, or remove a temporary crown, bridge, onlay, or temporary restorative material. This applies only to dentitions actively under treatment for which a permanent restoration is being fabricated.
18. Adjust permanent crowns outside of the mouth.
19. Perform nonsurgical clinical and laboratory oral diagnostic tests for interpretation by the dentist.
20. Apply pit and fissure sealants. Adjust sealants with slow speed handpiece.
21. Place and remove periodontal dressings, dry socket medications, and packing.
22. Remove sutures.
23. Monitor a patient who has been inducted by a dentist into nitrous-oxide relative analgesia.
24. Take impressions for fixed or removable orthodontic appliances, athletic mouth guards, bleaching trays, bite splints, flippers, and removable prosthetic repairs.
25. Preselect and prefit orthodontic bands.
26. Place, tie, and remove ligature wires and elastic ties, and place orthodontic separators.
27. Place and remove arch wires or appliances that have been activated by a dentist.

28. Cut and remove arch wires or replace loose bands, loose brackets, or other orthodontic appliances for palliative treatment.
29. Acid-etch enamel surfaces prior to pit and fissure sealants, direct bonding of orthodontic brackets, or composite restorations.
30. Place orthodontic brackets using an indirect bonding technique by seating the transfer tray loaded with brackets previously positioned in the dental laboratory by a dentist.
31. Take face bow transfers.
32. Orally transmit a prescription that has been authorized by the supervising dentist.

History: Effective September 1, 1980; amended effective February 1, 1992; October 1, 1993; May 1, 1996; August 1, 1998; April 1, 2000; July 1, 2004; April 1, 2006; January 1, 2011.

General Authority: NDCC 43-20-10

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-20-03, 43-20-11, 43-20-12

20-04-01-02. Prohibited services. A dental hygienist may not perform the following services:

1. Diagnosis and treatment planning.
2. Surgery on hard or soft tissue.
3. Administer or titrate anesthetics, except topical and local anesthetic, as permitted under sections 20-04-01-01 and 20-04-01-03.
4. Any irreversible dental procedure or procedures which require the professional judgment and skill of a dentist.
5. Place a final restoration.
6. Contour a final restoration, excluding a crown which has not been cemented by a dentist.
7. Activating any type of orthodontic appliance.
8. Cementing or bonding orthodontic bands or brackets that have not been previously placed by a dentist.

9. Placing bases or cavity liners.

History: Effective February 1, 1992; amended effective October 1, 1993; July 1, 2004; January 1, 2011.

General Authority: NDCC 43-20-10

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-20-03; 43-20-11, 43-20-12, 43-20-12.3

20-04-01-03. Duties of dental hygienists. A dental hygienist may perform the following services under the direct supervision of a dentist:

1. A licensed dental hygienist may apply for a permit to administer local anesthesia to a patient who is at least eighteen years old, under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. To be considered for a permit, a hygienist must have successfully completed a didactic and clinical course in local anesthesia within the last twenty-four months sponsored by a dental or dental hygiene program accredited by the commission on dental accreditation of the American dental association resulting in the dental hygienist becoming clinically competent in the administration of local anesthesia.
2. A licensed dental hygienist applying for a local anesthesia permit who has been permitted to administer local anesthesia and who has continuously administered local anesthesia during the past three years must provide verification of the permit and continuous use to the North Dakota board of dental examiners. Verification may consist of:
 - a. A letter from the accredited school with the school seal affixed. Photocopies will not be accepted.
 - b. A notarized copy of the certification of the local anesthesia course completed.
 - c. A notarized letter stating that the licensed dental hygienist has administered local anesthesia within the last three years.
 - d. A notarized copy of the dental hygiene transcript with the local anesthesia course recorded.
3. A licensed dental hygienist requesting a permit to administer anesthesia who cannot provide verification as required in subsection 2 must retake and successfully pass a didactic and clinical course in local anesthesia sponsored by a dental or dental hygiene program accredited by the commission on dental accreditation of the American dental association.

History: Effective July 1, 2004.

General Authority: NDCC 43-20-10

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-20-03

20-04-01-04. Additional requirements for licensure by examination.

The board may grant a license to practice dental hygiene to an applicant who has met the requirements of North Dakota Century Code section 43-20-01.2 and all the following requirements:

1. The applicant has passed the examination administered by the joint commission on national dental examinations or the dental hygiene certification board of Canada within two years of application.
2. The applicant has passed, within two years of application, a clinical competency examination administered by one of the following:
 - a. Any regional dental testing service before September 17, 2009.
 - b. Central regional dental testing service.
 - c. Council of interstate testing agencies.
 - d. Western regional examining board.
3. The applicant has successfully completed a cardiopulmonary resuscitation course within two years of application.
4. The applicant has the physical health and visual acuity to enable the applicant to meet the minimum standards of professional competence.

History: Effective January 1, 2011.

General Authority: NDCC 43-20-10

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-20-01.2

20-04-01-05. Additional requirements for licensure by credential review. The board may grant a license to practice dental hygiene to an applicant who has met the requirements of North Dakota Century Code section 43-20-01.3 and all the following requirements:

1. The applicant has successfully completed a cardiopulmonary resuscitation course within two years of application.
2. The applicant has the physical health and visual acuity to enable the applicant to meet the minimum standards of professional competence.
3. The applicant has completed sixteen hours of continuing education in accordance with section 20-04-01-08 within two years of application.

History: Effective January 1, 2011.

General Authority: NDCC 43-20-10

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-20-01.3

20-04-01-06. Additional requirements for applications. Applications must be completed within twelve months of filing. In addition to the application requirements of North Dakota Century Code sections 43-20-01.2, 43-20-01.3, and 43-20-06, the board may require an application to include:

1. Proof of identity, including any name change.
2. An official transcript sent by an accredited dental school directly to the board.
3. Evidence demonstrating the applicant passed the examination administered by the joint commission on national dental examinations within two years of application.
4. Evidence demonstrating the applicant passed a clinical competency examination, approved by the board, within two years of application.
5. An interview by the board.
6. A certification, from the licensing board of every jurisdiction in which the applicant is licensed, that the applicant is licensed in good standing.
7. Certification that the applicant has completed a cardiopulmonary resuscitation course within two years of application.
8. Verification of physical health and visual acuity.
9. For applications for licensure by credential review, the law and rules stating the requirements for licensure, when the applicant was licensed, of the jurisdiction in which the applicant is licensed.
10. For applications for licensure by credential review and reinstatement from inactive status, proof of completion of sixteen hours of continuing education in accordance with section 20-04-01-08 within two years of application.
11. Any information required by the application forms prescribed by the board.

History: Effective January 1, 2011.

General Authority: NDCC 43-20-10

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-20-01.2, 43-20-01.3, 43-20-06

20-04-01-07. Inactive status - License reinstatement. A dental hygienist may, upon payment of the fee determined by the board, place the dental hygienist's license on inactive status. A dental hygienist on inactive status shall be excused from the payment of renewal fees, except inactive status renewal fees, and continuing education. A dental hygienist on inactive status shall not practice in North Dakota. To reinstate a license on inactive status, the dental hygienist shall

apply on a form prescribed by the board, pay a reinstatement fee, and meet all of the following requirements:

1. The applicant has passed a clinical competency examination administered by a regional dental testing service, approved by the board in section 20-04-01-04, within two years of application. The board may, within the board's discretion, waive this requirement.
2. The applicant passes a written examination on the laws and rules governing the practice of dentistry in this state administered by the board at a meeting.
3. The applicant has completed sixteen hours of continuing education in accordance with section 20-04-01-08 within two years of application.
4. The applicant has successfully completed a cardiopulmonary resuscitation course within two years of application.
5. Grounds for denial of the application under North Dakota Century Code section 43-20-05 do not exist.

History: Effective January 1, 2011.

General Authority: NDCC 43-20-10

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-20-06

20-04-01-08. Continuing dental education for dental hygienists. Each dental hygienist shall provide evidence on forms supplied by the board that the dental hygienist has attended or participated in continuing dental education in accordance with the following conditions:

1. Continuing education activities include publications, seminars, symposiums, lectures, college courses, and online education.
2. The continuing dental education hours will accumulate on the basis of one hour of credit for each hour spent in education. Subject matter directly related to clinical dentistry will be accepted by the board without limit.
3. The minimum number of hours required within a two-year cycle is sixteen. Of these hours, a dental hygienist may earn no more than eight hours from publications and online education. The continuing education must include:
 - a. Two hours of ethics or jurisprudence. Passing the laws and rules examination is the equivalent of two hours of ethics or jurisprudence.
 - b. Two hours of infection control.

- C. A cardiopulmonary resuscitation course.
- 4. Mere registration at a dental convention without specific attendance at continuing education presentations will not be creditable toward the continuing dental education requirement.
- 5. All dental hygienists must hold a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation certificate.

History: Effective January 1, 2011.

General Authority: NDCC 43-20-10

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-20-01.4