

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46

Article XVII
DENTAL ASSISTANT FUNCTIONS

A. ALL FUNCTIONS DELEGATED TO A DENTAL ASSISTANT MUST BE PERFORMED UNDER PERSONAL SUPERVISION. PERSONAL SUPERVISION MEANS:

1. The Dentist is in the office or treatment facility.
2. The Dentist has personally diagnosed the condition to be treated.
3. The Dentist has personally authorized the procedures.
4. The Dentist remains in the office or treatment facility while the procedures are being performed.
5. The Dentist evaluates the performance of the Dental Assistant before the dismissal of the patient.

The supervising licensed Dentist is responsible for determining the appropriateness of delegation of any specific function based upon knowledge of the skills of the assistant, the needs of the patient, the requirements of the task and whether proof of competence is required.

The Dentist is ultimately responsible for patient care. Nothing contained in the authority given the Dentist by this rule to delegate the performance of certain procedures shall in any way relieve the supervising Dentist from the liability to the patient for negligent performance by a Dental Assistant.

B. DEFINITIONS

1. Dental Assistant: A staff member of a duly licensed Dentist who is involved in direct patient care to include a Certified Dental Assistant or a Registered Dental Assistant.

2. Registered Dental Assistant: A Dental Assistant who has obtained a permit(s) from the Board to perform any or all of the following expanded duties:
a. Administration of nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia
b. Operation of dental radiographic equipment
c. Coronal polishing
d. Monitoring of patients undergoing deep sedation or general anesthesia

3. Certified Dental Assistant: A Dental Assistant who is currently certified by the Dental Assistant National Board.

C. TASKS AUTHORIZED TO BE PERFORMED BY DENTAL ASSISTANTS

With the exceptions listed below, a Dental Assistant may perform any dental task or procedure assigned by the supervising dentist to the assistant that does not require the professional skills of a licensed Dentist or licensed dental hygienist, but only under the personal supervision of a licensed Dentist on the premises. These

47 duties may only be delegated when the effect of the procedure assigned is
48 reversible.

49

50D. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

51 The responsibility for diagnosis, treatment planning, or the prescription of
52 medications in the practice of Dentistry shall remain with a licensed Dentist and
53 may not be assigned or delegated to a Dental Assistant. No dental procedure
54 that will contribute to or result in an irreversible alteration of the oral anatomy
55 may be performed by anyone other than a licensed Dentist. The following
56 activities are prohibited for dental assistants:

57

58 1. Diagnosis and treatment planning

59

60 2. Scaling, root planing and curettage

61

62 3. Surgical or cutting procedures on hard or soft tissue.

63

64 4. Prescription, injection, inhalation, and parenteral administration of drugs
65 (except where permitted by the Board)

66

67 5. Placement, seating, or removal of any final or permanent restorations.

68

69 6. Final placement of orthodontic brackets

70

71 7. Any procedure that contributes to or results in irreversible alteration of the oral
72 anatomy

73

74 8. Performance of any of the following expanded duties without a permit:

75

Administration of nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia

76

Operation of dental radiographic equipment

77

Coronal polishing

78

79 9. Those functions relegated to a dental hygienist and stated in Regulation XI A.

80

81E. REGISTERED DENTAL ASSISTANT EXPANDED FUNCTION PERMITS

82 It is the responsibility of the Dental Assistant to provide the Arkansas State Board of
83 Dental Examiners with proof of competence in the desired expanded function
84 prior to receiving a permit from the Board.

85

86 1. A Dental Assistant may induce and monitor nitrous oxide/oxygen
87 analgesia after successful completion of a course approved by the Board
88 and the payment of a designated fee. At this time a permit will be issued.

89

90 2. A Dental Assistant may operate dental radiographic equipment after
91 successful completion of an education course as approved by the Board
92 and submits proof of competency by passing an examination and the
93 payment of a designated fee. At this time, a permit will be issued.

94 3. A Dental Assistant may perform coronal polishing after successful
95 completion of education requirements as approved by the Board and
96 submits proof of competency by passing such examination as the Board
97 requires, and the payment of a designated fee. At this time a permit will
98 be issued.
99

100 4. A Dental Assistant may monitor patients who are under deep sedation or
101 general anesthesia only in offices where the dentist(s) is permitted to
102 perform those services, after successful completion of educational
103 requirements as approved by the Board and submits proof of
104 competency by passing such examination as the Board requires and the
105 payment of a designated fee. At that time, a permit will be issued.
106

107 4.5. A Certified Dental Assistant, or an assistant who is a graduate of a
108 school which is accredited or provisionally accredited by the Council on
109 Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, need only
110 submit proof of graduation or certification to the Board along with the
111 designated fee and a permit will be issued for any expanded duty
112 requested except Sedation Monitoring.
113
114

115 After receipt of one or more of the expanded function permits, the Dental Assistant
116 will then be considered a Registered Dental Assistant with the Board. Those
117 permits must be on display within the dental office or treatment facility.
118

119 F. PROCESS FOR OBTAINING PERMIT FOR ADMINISTRATION OF NITROUS OXIDE

120

121 A Dental Assistant desiring to obtain an expanded duty permit for nitrous
122 oxide/oxygen analgesia from the Board must do the following:
123

- 124 1. Successfully complete a nitrous oxide administration and monitoring course as
125 approved by the Board.
- 126 2. Submit a copy of the certificate of completion to the Board along with any
127 designated fee.

128 3. Successfully completed a jurisprudence examination covering the Dental
129 Practice Act and rules of the Board.

130 4. Show proof of current certification in healthcare provider level of CPR.
131

132 G. PROCESS FOR OBTAINING PERMIT FOR RADIOGRAPHY AND/OR CORONAL 133 POLISHING

134

135 A Dental Assistant desiring to obtain an expanded duty permit for radiography
136 and/or coronal polishing from the Board must do the following:
137

- 138 1. Request the educational packet from the Board for the desired permit and
139 pay the appropriate fee.
140

- 141 2. Successfully complete the examination or clinical checklist administered by
- 142 the supervising Dentist as provided by the Board, and return the required
- 143 materials to the Board.
- 144 3. Successfully complete a jurisprudence examination covering the Dental
- 145 Practice Act and rules of the Board.
- 146 4. Show proof of healthcare provider level of CPR.

147

148

H. PROCESS FOR OBTAINING PERMIT FOR SEDATION MONITORING

149

150

A Dental Assistant desiring to obtain an expanded duty permit for sedation monitoring from the Board must do the following:

151

152

153

1. Hold a current permit for nitrous oxide administration

154

2. Hold a current certification in health care provider level of

155

cardiopulmonary resuscitation

156

3. Be a Certified Dental Assistant, Registered Dental Assistant, Registered

157

Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse

158

4. Submit proof of successful completion of the American Association of Oral

159

and Maxillofacial Surgeons Anesthesia Assistant's training program or a

160

Board approved equivalent course within the two year period

161

immediately previous to submitting an application to be a Sedation

162

Assistant.

163

5. Successfully complete a jurisprudence examination covering the Dental

164

Practice Act and rules of the Board.

165

6. Show proof of healthcare provider level of CPR.

166

7. Exemptions: Licensed physicians with a specialty in anesthesiology and

167

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists are exempt from the educational

168

and permit requirements listed in this section. Other licensed health care

169

providers, who can show proof of successful completion of a course

170

which meets or exceeds those listed in this regulation, may obtain an

171

exemption from the Board on a case by case basis.

172

173

H.I. SAID PERMITS MUST BE RENEWED ON FORMS AS PROVIDED BY THE BOARD

174

PURSUANT TO ARK. CODE ANN 17-82-405. As stated in that section of the Code,

175

the procedures for registration and penalties for failure to register permits of

176

dentists as stated in 17-82-310 through 17-82-314 will apply to the registration of

177

permits by dental assistants.

178

179

H.J. A Registered Dental Assistant must provide the Board proof of completing 2 hours

180

of Continuing Education each 2-year reporting period on the subject of infection

181

control in order to renew a permit to perform expanded duties. The Registered

182

Dental Assistant must report the Continuing Education hours in the manner set

183

forth in Article XIV of the Board.

184

185

Separated from Article XI and approved 1/12/01; amended 8/23/02 and 4/29/05.