

OREGON DENTAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION

POSITION STATEMENT

NITROUS OXIDE OR MINIMAL SEDATION

Within the Code of Ethics for member dentists of the Oregon Dental Association is the section on objectives of service to the public. This section establishes the obligation of the dentist to deliver care competently and timely. Quality of care is to be a primary consideration of the dental practitioner. Also included within the Code of Ethics, is the privilege of dentists to be accorded professional status by virtue of the knowledge, skill, and experience with which they serve their patients and society. The 2014 Oregon Board of Dentistry Dental Practice Act amended OAR 818-026-0055 to describe requirements for dental hygienists and dental assistants.

Sharing the same principal, the Oregon Dental Assistants Association objective for its members and all dental assistants is to support and encourage continued education, and to maintain the highest standards of performance.

The Oregon Dental Assistants, believes all patients must receive this commitment of the highest standard of performance and reaffirms it's position that all functions or tasks delegated to dental assistants comply as defined by the Oregon Board of Dentistry. This functions should be performed under indirect supervision of the licensed permit holder.

The Oregon Dental Assistants Association further believes that the needs of the public are best met by dental assistants who have demonstrated their knowledge and competency by holding the required EFDA credential and successfully passing an Oregon Board of Dentistry approved course.

The Oregon Board of Dentistry Dental Practice Act amended January 14, 2014 OAR 818-026-0055 is the basis for this position statement.

Dental hygiene and dental assistant procedures performed under nitrous oxide or minimal sedation

(1) Dental Hygiene

(a), (b) and (c) refer to indirect supervision for dental hygiene procedures performed for a patient under nitrous oxide or minimal sedation.

(2) Dental Assistants

Under direct supervision, a dental assistant may perform those procedures for which the dental assistant holds the appropriate certification for a patient who is under nitrous oxide or minimal sedation under the following conditions:

- a) A licensee holding the Nitrous Oxide, Minimal, Moderate, Deep Sedation or General Anesthesia Permit administers the sedative agents;
- b) The permit holder, or anesthesia monitor, monitors the patient; and
- c) The permit holder performs the appropriate pre- and post-operative evaluation and discharges the patient in accordance with 818-026-0050 (7) Monitoring and (8) Responsiveness.

Implemented historically 3-2003.

Presented: March 2014

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