Dental Hygiene Committee of California
Department of Consumer Affairs

Proposed Regulations

Adopt Section 1100 of Article 1 of Division 11 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:

§1100. Definitions.

For purposes of this division:
(a) “Administration of local anesthesia” means the administration of local anesthetic agents by infiltration injection or conductive injection.
(b) “Administration of nitrous oxide and oxygen” means the administration of nitrous oxide and oxygen when used as an analgesic during dental treatment.
(c) “Assessment” means the systematic collection, analysis, and documentation of the oral and general health status and patient needs through a variety of methods, including choice of radiographs, diagnostic tools, and instruments.
(d) “Basic supportive dental procedures” means fundamental duties or functions as referenced in California Code of Regulations Section 1067(l).
(e) “Committee office” means the Committee office located in Sacramento, California.
(f) “Executive Officer” means the Executive Officer appointed by the Committee.
(g) "Dental assistant" means an unlicensed person as referenced in California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 1067(b).
(h) “Dental hygiene care plan” means an organized presentation or list of interventions to promote health or prevent disease of the patient’s oral condition; plan is designed by the dental hygienist based on assessment data, dental hygiene diagnosis, and consists of services within the scope of dental hygiene practice.
(i) “Dental hygiene preventive services” means those services provided by the dental hygienist that prevent oral disease or pathology, promote oral health and improve the patient’s quality of life.
(j) “Dental hygiene therapeutic interventions” means specific procedure or set of procedures designed to intervene in the disease process to produce a therapeutic benefit.
(k) “Dental hygiene treatment plan” means an organized presentation or list of interventions to promote health or prevent disease of the patient’s oral condition designed by the registered dental hygienist in alternative practice based on assessment data and consists of services within the scope of practice of the registered dental hygienist in alternative practice.
(l) “Ethics” for the purposes of the examination required by Section 1917(d) of the Code, means an act or acts in accordance with the California Dental Hygienists’ Association (CDHA) or the American Dental Hygienists Association (ADHA) Code of Ethics.
(m) “Gross trauma” means a burn, deep laceration, long laceration and/or puncture to soft tissue, hard tissue, and/or bone.
(n) "Licentiate" or “Licensee” means any individual licensed or registered by the Committee.
(o) “Periodontal debridement” means the process by which hard and soft deposits are removed from the supragingival and subgingival surfaces of the teeth, including the disruption of bacterial cell walls of nonadherent plaque.

(p) “Periodontal evaluation record” means that part of the dental hygiene assessment document pertaining to the clinical observations of the gingiva, periodontal pocket probe depths, measurement of the location of the free gingival margin/recession, calculation of attachment loss, measurement of keratinized/attached gingiva, detection of marginal and deep bleeding on probing, detection of suppuration, detection of furcation involvement, detection of fremitus and mobility, and assessment of plaque and calculus accumulations.

(q) “Polishing the coronal surfaces of teeth”, or “coronal polishing” means a procedure limited to the removal of plaque on and stain from exposed tooth surfaces, utilizing an appropriate rotary instrument with rubber cup or brush and a polishing agent.

(r) “Refer” means through assessment, diagnosis, or treatment, it is determined that services are needed beyond the practitioner’s competence or area of expertise.

(s) “Root planing” means the process of instrumentation which removes all residual calculus and toxic materials from the root to produce a clean, smooth tooth surface.

(t) “Scaling” means the removal of calculus and dental biofilm from the supragingival and subgingival exposed tooth surfaces.

(u) "Soft tissue curettage" means the removal of the inflamed soft tissue lateral to the pocket wall, which is not subgingival curettage referring to the procedure that is performed apical to the epithelial attachment, severing the connective tissue attachment down to the osseous crest.

(v) “Treatment facility” for purposes of section 1902 of the Code means any place where oral health services are provided.