

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF
THE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS OF NEVADA**

LCB File No. R154-97

Effective January 14, 1998

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: NRS 631.190.

Section 1. NAC 631.210 is hereby amended to read as follows:

631.210 1. A dentist who is licensed in the State of Nevada may authorize a dental hygienist in his employ to:

(a) Administer topical anesthetics and topical desensitizing agents in any form except aerosol.

(b) Remove stains, deposits and accretions, including dental calculus.

(c) Smooth the natural and restored surface of a tooth by using the procedures and instruments commonly used in oral prophylaxis, except that an abrasive stone, disc or bur may be used only to polish a restoration. As used in this paragraph, “oral prophylaxis” means the preventative dental procedure of scaling and polishing which includes the removal of calculus, soft deposits, plaques and stain and the smoothing of unattached tooth surfaces in order to create an environment in which hard and soft tissues can be maintained in good health by the patient.

(d) Inspect and record the condition of a patient’s teeth.

(e) Take the following types of impressions:

(1) Those used for the preparation of diagnostic models;

(2) Those used for the fabrication of temporary crowns or bridges; and

(3) Those used for the fabrication of temporary removal appliances, provided no missing teeth are replaced by those appliances.

(f) Apply a fluoride preparation to teeth.

(g) Perform subgingival curettage.

(h) Expose radiographs.

(i) Place and remove a periodontal pack.

(j) Remove excess cement from cemented restorations and orthodontic appliances. A dental hygienist may not use a rotary cutting instrument to remove excess cement from restorations or orthodontic appliances.

(k) Train and instruct persons in the techniques of oral hygiene and preventative procedures.

(l) Repair temporary crowns and bridges.

(m) Recement temporary crowns and bridges.

Before performing any of the services set forth in this subsection, the dental hygienist must obtain authorization from the licensed dentist of the patient on whom the services are to be performed and the patient must have been examined by that dentist [*within the*] *not more than* 18 months before the services are to be performed by the dental hygienist.

2. A dentist who is licensed in the State of Nevada may authorize a dental hygienist in his employ and under his supervision to:

(a) Remove sutures.

(b) Place and secure orthodontic ligatures.

(c) Apply topical antibiotics.

(d) Fabricate and place temporary crowns and bridges. This procedure must be checked and approved by the supervising dentist before dismissal of the patient from the office of the dentist.

(e) Apply pit and fissure sealant to the dentition for the prevention of decay. This procedure must be checked and approved by the supervising dentist before dismissal of the patient from the office of the dentist.

(f) Fit orthodontic bands and prepare teeth for orthodontic bands if the bands are cemented or bonded, or both, into the patient's mouth by the dentist who authorized the dental hygienist to perform this procedure.

The dental hygienist must obtain the authorization from the licensed dentist of the patient on whom the services are to be performed.

3. If a dentist who is licensed in the State of Nevada has in his employ and under his supervision a dental hygienist who has:

(a) Successfully completed a course of continuing education in the administering of local anesthetics or nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia, or both, which has been approved by the board; or

(b) Graduated from an accredited program of dental hygiene which includes the administering of local anesthetics or nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia, or both, in its curriculum, the dentist may authorize the dental hygienist to administer local anesthetics or nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia, or both, as appropriate, for dental hygienic procedures if the dental hygienist has received from the board a certificate certifying the hygienist to this level of proficiency. The dental hygienist must obtain the authorization from the licensed dentist of the patient on whom the services are to be performed.

4. A dental hygienist in a health care facility may apply topical antibiotics and, if he has complied with paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 3, may administer local anesthetics or nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia, or both, as appropriate, for dental hygienic procedures, if he first:

(a) Obtains written authorization from the licensed dentist of the patient to whom the local anesthetics, nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia or topical antibiotics are to be administered; and

(b) Submits to the secretary-treasurer of the board a written confirmation from the director of the health care facility that the facility has licensed medical personnel and necessary emergency supplies and equipment that will be available when the local anesthetics, nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia or topical antibiotics are administered.

[As used in this subsection, “health care facility” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.800.]

5. *The board may authorize a dental hygienist to perform the following services without supervision by a dentist and without authorization from the licensed dentist of the patient on whom the services are to be performed, at a health facility, a school or a place in this state approved by the Board:*

(a) *The services set forth in paragraphs (a) to (m), inclusive, of subsection 1; and*

(b) *Application of pit and fissure sealant to the dentition if:*

(1) *The sealant is an unfilled resin; and*

(2) *The sealant is applied in accordance with a diagnosis made by a licensed dentist not more than six months before the application of the sealant by the dental hygienist.*

6. *As used in this section:*

(a) *“Health care facility” has the meaning ascribed to it in subsection 1 of NRS 449.800.*

(b) *“Health facility” has the meaning ascribed to it in subsection 6 of NRS 449.260.*

(c) *“School” means an elementary, secondary or postsecondary educational facility, public or private, in this state.*