

Standards of Practice



COLLABORATION

STANDARD STATEMENT

The dental hygienist collaborates with **clients**, health professionals and **others** in a cooperative, constructive, and respectful manner.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

The dental hygienist must...

1. Recognize their own limitations throughout service delivery and collaborate as appropriate with other health professionals for the benefit of the client.
2. Consult with others and facilitate referrals to appropriate health professionals, facilities, programs, or government agencies when the client's needs fall outside the dental hygienist's scope and/or competence.
3. Share client information with others, consistent with informed consent, privacy, and as required by legislation.
4. Coordinate **dental hygiene services** with the client and others to ensure the services are integrated into the client's overall and oral health plan, as appropriate.
5. Function effectively and appropriately within interprofessional teams for the benefit of the client.
6. Engage with others, including the client, to share in decision making, prevent misunderstandings, manage differences, and take action to manage any conflicts which may arise.
7. Communicate the need for any referrals with the client.

CLIENT EXPECTATION

The client can expect that the dental hygienist will collaborate effectively to provide safe, competent, and ethical care.

GLOSSARY

DENTAL HYGIENE SERVICES

Dental hygiene services include the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of oral health conditions through therapeutic, educational, and preventive dental hygiene procedures and strategies that promote wellness. These procedures and strategies include restricted activities authorized by the Alberta Dental Hygienists Profession Regulation. Dental hygiene services are provided to individual clients or communities by dental hygienists in their roles as clinicians, educators, researchers, administrators, health promoters, and consultants.

OTHERS

Those within the person's circle of care, including health and social work professionals, administrative personnel, cultural brokers, and those directly or indirectly involved in supporting the health and well-being of a client. The term may also include representatives from private, voluntary, and non-profit groups, and government sectors. (FDHRC)