

Standards of Practice



RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES

The *Health Professions Act* provides the authority for regulatory colleges to regulate the practice of **restricted activities** by authorized professionals. Restricted activities are high risk activities performed as part of providing a **health service** that require specific competencies and skills to be carried out safely.

Restricted activities for dental hygienists are divided into those activities which are authorized for all registrants holding a general or courtesy practice permit, and those that require additional training and authorization from the College.

The **Dental Hygienists Profession Regulation [will be updated with Bill 46 amendments]** allows dental hygienists to perform the following restricted activities, subject to any conditions or restrictions on the individual's practice permit and in accordance with the Standards of Practice:

- for the purpose of assessing or treating oral health conditions but not for the purpose of performing restoration procedures of a permanent nature, to cut a body tissue, to administer anything by an invasive procedure on body tissue or to perform surgical or other invasive procedures on body tissue below the dermis or the mucous membrane or in or below the surface of teeth, including scaling of teeth;
- to insert or remove instruments, devices, fingers, or hands beyond the pharynx for oral soft tissue examinations;
- to reduce a dislocation of a temporomandibular joint for the purpose of reducing a subluxation of the temporomandibular joint;
- to **compound**, provide for selling, or **sell**, incidentally to the practice of dental hygiene, a Schedule 1 drug or Schedule 2 drug within the meaning of **Schedule 7.1 to the Government Organization Act [will be updated with Bill 46 amendments]**;
- to order or apply any form of ionizing radiation in medical radiography.

The following restricted activities may only be performed if the dental hygienist completes **advanced training** according to College policies and obtains authorization from the College:

- Administering Local Anaesthesia
- Prescribing and Administering Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Conscious Sedation
- Performing Restorative Procedures of a Permanent Nature
- Performing Orthodontic Procedures
- Prescribing Schedule 1 Drugs
- Any other restricted activity identified by the College

Despite any authorization to perform restricted activities, dental hygienists must restrict themselves in performing restricted activities to those activities that they are competent to perform and to those that are appropriate to the dental hygienist's area of practice and the procedure being performed.

STANDARD STATEMENT

The dental hygienist performs only those restricted activities they are authorized and competent to perform, within the context of their practice of dental hygiene, and when client assessment findings indicate their use. The dental hygienist completes approved **advanced training** and obtains additional authorization from the College in order to perform **Advanced Restricted Activities**.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

The dental hygienist must...

1. Perform only those restricted activities for which they have the required authorization¹.
2. Be responsible and accountable for safely performing the restricted activity.
3. Only perform a restricted activity if:
 - a) they are educated, trained, and competent to perform it;
 - b) an appropriate client assessment has been performed;
 - c) the restricted activity is appropriate to the procedure being performed.
4. Maintain the competence necessary to perform restricted activities relevant to their practice.
5. Be aware of risks associated with performing the restricted activity and ensure that risk mitigation measures are in place to manage any adverse events associated with performing it.
6. Complete an approved education course, apply to the College for authorization, and receive authorization from the College prior to performing the following Advanced Restricted Activities:
 - a) Administering Local Anaesthesia;
 - b) Prescribing and Administering Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Conscious Sedation;
 - c) Performing Restorative Procedures of a Permanent Nature;
 - d) Performing Orthodontic Procedures;
 - e) Prescribing Schedule 1 Drugs;
 - f) Any other restricted activity identified by the College.

¹ In accordance with HPA s 1.6(2), if no person who is authorized is available to perform the restricted activity or a portion of it, a person may without expectation or hope of compensation or reward provide a restricted activity or a portion of it to provide physical comfort to or to stabilize another person who is ill, injured or unconscious as a result of an accident or other emergency.

CLIENT EXPECTATION

The **client** can expect that the dental hygienist performs the restricted activities which they are authorized to provide in a safe, effective, and appropriate manner.

GLOSSARY

ADVANCED RESTRICTED ACTIVITY

A restricted activity which requires advanced training and authorization by the CRDHA prior to performing the restricted activity.

ADVANCED TRAINING

Theoretical and clinical training in a specific area of practice, which is above and beyond the entry-to-practice competency requirements. Advanced training is not usually offered as part of an entry-to-practice dental hygiene education program and must be approved by the College.

GLOSSARY

HEALTH SERVICE

Means a service provided to people (i) to protect, promote or maintain their health, (ii) to prevent illness, (iii) to diagnose, treat or rehabilitate them, or (iv) to take care of the health needs of the ill, disabled, injured or dying (GOA).

COMPOUND

Means to mix together 2 or more ingredients of which at least one is a drug for the purposes of dispensing a drug or drugs, but does not include reconstituting a drug or drugs with only water (GOA).

RESTRICTED ACTIVITY

Means an activity named as a restricted activity in **Schedule 7.1 to the *Government Organization Act* [will be updated with Bill 46 amendments]**.

SELL

Includes (i) distribute, trade or barter for money or other valuable consideration, (ii) distributing and giving away without expectation or hope of compensation or reward, (iii) keeping for sale, and (iv) offering for sale (GOA).