

Standards of Practice



QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

STANDARD STATEMENT

The dental hygienist engages in continuous **quality improvement** activities that support the delivery of appropriate, safe, and effective **dental hygiene services**.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

The dental hygienist must...

1. Initiate and/or participate in continuous quality improvement activities to assess dental hygiene services.
2. Use the data and feedback obtained from quality improvement activities to continually improve services and health outcomes for clients.

CLIENT EXPECTATION

The **client** can expect that the dental hygienist monitors health outcomes and quality of care, and adjusts services, programs (e.g., public health), and products as required.

GLOSSARY

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

A focused and systematic approach that leads to measurable improvement in health care services and health outcomes for clients. For example: client questionnaires, chart audits, population health data review, and data analysis.

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.