

# NEW MEXICO BOARD OF DENTAL HEALTH

UPDATES AND IMPORTANT REMINDERS 2015

## IMPORTANT RULES FOR DENTISTS

### PAIN MANAGEMENT COURSES:

As of June 30, 2014, rules state that all board licensees who hold a federal drug enforcement administration registration to prescribe controlled substances shall complete three or more continuing dental or medical education hours, triennially, in appropriate pain management courses.

Dentists are also required to register with the Prescription Monitoring Program.  
[NMAC 16.5.57.8&10]

### AMALGAM SEPARATORS:

As of December 31, 2014, licensees are required to install

an appropriately sized amalgam separator on each wastewater drain at each dental office/clinic.

Exemptions include: an office

“THE DENTAL PROFESSION HOLDS A SPECIAL POSITION OF TRUST WITHIN SOCIETY. AS A CONSEQUENCE, SOCIETY AFFORDS THE PROFESSION CERTAIN PRIVILEGES..IN RETURN, THE PROFESSION MAKES A COMMITMENT TO ADHERE TO HIGH ETHICAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT.”  
~ADA PRINCIPALS OF ETHICS AND CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

that does not place, modify or remove amalgam; orthodontists; periodontists; oral & maxillofacial surgeons, radiologists; oral pathologists; portable dental offices without fixed connections.

Reporting of the separator type, model, and size to the Board was required by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014, and will be reported triennially with license renewal.  
[NMAC 16.5.58.8&9]

For further information, please refer to the most current Rules and Regulations online.

## FREQUENT COMPLAINTS TO THE DENTAL BOARD?

### 1. INFORMED

#### CONSENT:

Failure of a dentist to properly inform a patient regarding their treatment plan, fees, and associated risks/benefits.

### 2. ADVERTISING:

Failure to properly identify the dentist/s name/s on advertisements and promotional items.

### 3. SUPERVISION:

Improper supervision of dental staff/ allowing dental assistants to perform outside their scope of practice.

