

NEW MEXICO DENTAL HYGIENE COMMITTEE

UPDATES AND IMPORTANT REMINDERS JANUARY 2015

IMPORTANT RULES FOR DENTAL HYGIENIST

COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE HYGIENISTS & HYGIENISTS WHO OWN DENTAL PRACTICES:

Effective July 1, 2015 a

collaborative practice hygienist

and hygienists
who own their
own practices
(i.e those who
employ dentists)

must register
with the board.

The registration
form can be
found online on
the New Mexico
Board of Dental
Health Care
website. The
registration form
will request:

demographic
information,
ownership type,
business type

and licensure information. Once
completed it must be notarized
and turned into the board office.
Where applicable, collaborative
practice hygienist and hygienist
who own dental offices must also
be compliant with dental
amalgam waste disposal and
reporting, unless exempted as

STANDARDS OF
PROFESSIONAL
RESPONSIBILITY

"WE ARE
OBLIGATED TO
PRACTICE OUR
PROFESSION IN A
MANNER THAT
SUPPORTS OUR
PURPOSE, BELIEFS,
AND VALUES IN
ACCORDANCE WITH
THE FUNDAMENTAL
PRINCIPALS THAT
SUPPORT OUR ETHICS"

~ADHA CODE OF
ETHICS

stated in section NMAC
16.5.57.8&9.

ANESTHESIA CERTIFICATION:

The administration of local
anesthesia is an expanded

function for dental
hygienist [NMAC 16.5.1.1].

Certification is
granted for this
procedure to be
performed under *indirect
supervision*. Provisions
have been in place for
hygienists to practice
under *general supervision*
provided that a signed
affidavit has been
completed by a
supervision dentist along
with an application
which can be found on
the NMDB website. For
clarification, an addition
to the rules now reads:

"The signed affidavit is
valid for subsequent or

additional locations in which the
license may practice." A new
affidavit does not need to be
completed per employer/
employment. [NMAC 16.5.28.8 D]
For further information, please refer
to the most current Rules and
Regulations online.

FREQUENT COMPLAINTS TO THE DENTAL BOARD?

1. UNLICENSED HYGIENISTS:

Failure of a hygienist to
renew their license in a
timely manner results in
an expired license.

2. ANESTHESIA:

Failure of a hygienist to
have the proper
certification for local
anesthesia
administration under
indirect or general
supervision.

3. SUPERVISION:

Failure of a collaborative
practice dental hygienist
and collaborative dentist
to properly follow board
guidelines for patient
treatments.