



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO Box 47852 · Olympia Washington 98504-7852

DENTAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION DENTAL THERAPY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, March 5, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
Miryam Nossa, EFDA
Mac Rainey, Public Member
Sonia Pal, DDS
Tiffany Bass, DDS
David Carsten, DDS
Sarah Khan, DDS

STAFF PRESENT

Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Bruce Bronoske Jr., Program Manager
Sherri Stratton, Assistant Program Manager
Heather Carter, AAG

MEMBERS ABSENT

Samantha Kofler, DDS

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION - 12:01 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Dr. Bryan Swanson, DDS – Chair
 - 1.1. Introduction of committee members and staff
 - Mr. Bronoske Jr. introduces committee members and staff.
 - 1.2. Addition to the agenda – WA Dental Hygienist' Association
 - There is a motion to approve the addition to the agenda 3.0
 - The motion is moved and seconded.
 - 1.3. Approval of February 5, 2024 meeting minutes.
 - There is a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
 - The motion is moved and seconded.

2. DENTAL THERAPY WORKSHOP – The committee and department will work on draft rules for dental therapy.

2.1. Mr. Bronoske Jr. presents the draft rules to the committee.

- “Active Practice” – Weekly requirement is too limited.
 - 2.1..1. Conversation around the CDC recommendations for active practice is 20 hours per week which is 2000 hours in 24 months.
 - 2.1..2. Many agree with changing to an hourly vs weekly.
 - 2.1..3. WSDA approves of the changing.
 - 2.1..4. Changing to 560 hours within the proceeding 24 months. Used from previous Dental Hygiene Rules.
 - 2.1..5. Mr. Bronoske reassures the committee these dental therapists are active licensed dental therapists. He will also double check what other states have for this limit.
- “Limited Conditions” – when a patient is classified as an ASA I or ASA II and is experiencing at least 95% bone loss in the affected tooth.
 - 2.1..1. ASA1 & ASA2 defined by Dr. Swanson as American Anesthesia Health Status Systemic Disease. Bone loss would be radiographic loss of tooth.
 - 2.1..2. This should be written/handled in the practice plan.
 - 2.1..3. Parameters are very important to prevent practitioners performing a simple procedure that escalates beyond their comfort and to outline patient safety.
 - 2.1..4. Dr. Bass is concerned about limiting practice to these guidelines. ASA I & ASA II patients are not typically seen in these types of clinics. 95% bone loss is not a reasonable percentage. These limited conditions are not going to increase access of care.
 - 2.1..5. WSDHA seconds this practice is supposed to increase access of care and this limited condition does not allow for that. Dental therapists are being trained by CODA accredited program giving them high quality education.
 - 2.1..6. Sami with WA Association for Community Health agrees the “limited conditions” guideline is too limited. The practice agreement should determine the limited conditions since it is ultimately the supervising dentist who determines and is responsible for what the DT does in the setting.
 - 2.1..7. WSDA suggests looking at the accredited programs and their guidelines to assist with this rule.
 - 2.1..8. Dr. Davis suggests higher supervision and judgement on what the dentist is comfortable with.
 - 2.1..9. Angela Johnson suggests adding “with consultation of supervising dentist/consultation.”
 - 2.1..10. Simple extraction is no hand piece used. This is wiggle and remove.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

3.1. There is no correspondence at this time.

4. FUTURE BUSINESS

4.1. Mr. Bronoske Jr. will research active practice for other states. Also, he will check on other international rules. He will provide a spreadsheet to have available for the next meeting.

4.2. The next meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

5. ADJOURN

5.1. Dr. Swanson adjourned the meeting at 12:59PM.

Submitted by:

Bruce Bronoske Jr., Program Manager
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

Approved by:

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chairperson
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

Signature

Signature

Date

Date