

**Dental Hygiene Committee of California** 

**Licensing & Examination Subcommittee** 

**Agenda** 



#### DENTAL HYGIENE COMMITTEE OF CALIFORNIA

2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 2050 Sacramento, CA 95815 **P** (916) 263-1978 | **F** (916) 263-2688 | **www.dhcc.ca.gov** 



Notice is hereby given that a public meeting of the Licensing and Examination Subcommittee of the Dental Hygiene Committee of California will be held as follows:

# LICENSING AND EXAMINATION SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, November 16, 2018

Radisson Hotel Fresno
Conference Center
1055 Van Ness Avenue
Fresno CA 93721
9:00 am until adjournment

# **Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Members:**

Noel Kelsch, RDHAP Member, Chair Sandy Klein, Public Member Nicolette Moultrie, RDH Member Evangeline Ward, RDH Member

# **Upon Conclusion of the Enforcement Subcommittee**

### Agenda

LIC 1 - Roll Call

# LIC 2 - Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

[The DHCC may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during the Public Comment section that is not included on this agenda, except whether to decide to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting (Government Code §§ 11125 & 11125.7(a)]

- **LIC 3** Chairperson's Report
- LIC 4 Approval of the April 20, 2018 Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
- LIC 5 Licensure Statistics, Informational Only
- LIC 6 Written Exam Statistics, Informational Only

- LIC 7 Discussion and Possible Action to Address the following Issues Presented by the California Dental Hygienists' Association (CDHA) Pertaining to RDH and RDHAP Scope of Practice and Legislative Changes:
  - a) Removal of Restrictive Supervision Requirements:
    - Removal of Direct Supervision Restrictions for RDH SLN (Soft Tissue Curettage, Local Anesthesia, and Nitrous Oxide-Oxygen Administration) duties.
    - 2) Amend the Act for RDH to practice under the general supervision of a dentist or a physician to expand access to care.
  - b) Remove Practice Restrictions for RDH Working without Supervision in Public Health Settings:
    - 1) Amend 1911(a) to allow RDH to provide fluoride varnish without supervision.
    - 2) Amend 1911(c) to change "employed" to "practicing."
  - c) RDHAP Scope of Practice Limitations: expand RDHAP unsupervised dental hygiene services to any settings authorized to employ an RDHAP.
  - d) Reduction of Administrative Barriers:
    - 1) Allow RDHAP established practices within shortage areas to continue to operate even after the "shortage" designation no longer exists.
    - 2) Amend Act to allow RDHAPs to receive payment for services provided.
    - 3) Amend Act to include "Dental Hygiene Diagnosis" as defined by Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) Standards.

# LIC 8 - Future Agenda Items

# LIC 9 – Adjournment

DHCC members who are not members of this subcommittee may attend meetings as observers only and may not participate or vote. Action may be taken on any item listed on this agenda, including information only items. Items may be taken out of order for convenience, to accommodate speakers, or maintain a quorum. All times are approximate and subject to change. The meeting may be cancelled without notice. For verification of the meeting, call (916) 263-1978 or access the Committee's Web Site at www.dhcc.ca.gov.

The meeting facilities are accessible to individuals with physical disabilities. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Brittany Alicia at (916) 576-5001 or e-mail at: Brittany.alicia@dca.ca.gov or send a written request to DHCC at 2005 Evergreen Street, Ste. 2050, Sacramento, CA 95815. Providing your request at least five (5) business days before the meeting will help to ensure availability of the requested accommodation.



# Roll Call for the Dental Hygiene Committee of California's Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting November 16, 2018

	Present	Absent
Noel Kelsch, RDHAP Member, Chair		
Sandy Klein, Public Member		
Nicolette Moultrie, RDH Member		
Evangeline Ward, RDH Member		



**Dental Hygiene Committee of California** 

Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting

Agenda Item 2

**Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda** 

[The DHCC may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during the Public Comment section that is not included on this agenda, except whether to decide to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting (Government Code §§ 11125 & 11125.7(a)]



**Dental Hygiene Committee of California** 

**Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting** 

Agenda Item 3

**Chairperson's Report** 

A Verbal Report Will Be Given



**Dental Hygiene Committee of California** 

**Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting** 

Agenda Item 4

**Approval of the April 20, 2018 Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting Minutes** 



#### DENTAL HYGIENE COMMITTEE OF CALIFORNIA

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# Dental Hygiene Committee Meeting Minutes Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Friday, April 20, 2018

#### Location:

Doubletree by Hilton Hotel – San Diego Mission Valley 7450 Hazard Center Drive San Diego, CA 92108

#### **DHCC Members Present:**

Noel Kelsch, Chairperson, Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice (RDHAP) Susan Good, President, Public Member (Substitute Subcommittee member) Sandra Klein. Public Member

#### **DHCC Members Absent:**

Nicolette Moultrie, Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) Evangeline Ward, RDH

### **DHCC Staff Present:**

Anthony Lum, Executive Officer
Brittany Alicia, Receptionist
Nancy Gaytan, Enforcement Analyst
Adina Pineschi-Petty, Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS), Education Specialist
Jason Hurtado, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Legal Counsel for the DHCC

## **Public Present:**

Beth Wilson, California Dental Hygienist's Association (CDHA)

Maureen Titus, CDHA

Heidi Cossam, CDHA

Karen Fischer, Executive Officer, Dental Board of California (DBC)

Thomas Stewart, DDS, President, DBC

JoAnn Galliano, RDH, MS, DHCC Educational Consultant and Subject Matter Expert (SME)

Debra Daniels, Taft College

Vickie Kimbrough, Taft College, Purple Pen

Leslie Nazaroff, San Joaquin Valley College (SJVC) - Ontario

Brenda Serpa, SJVC - Visalia

Morgan Stacey, Duane Marris, LLP

Kelly Reich, Western Regional Examination Board (WREB)

Sabrina Santucho, Concorde Career College (CCC) - San Bernardino

Iana Pierce, Shasta College

Meg Robison, Southwestern College (SWC), Dental Hygiene Student

Jen Stoehr, SWC Dental Hygiene Student Amanda Friednchs, SWC Dental Hygiene Student Kassandra Brown, SWC Dental Hygiene Student Kerrin Bradford, SWC Dental Hygiene Student Amelia Mosser, SWC Dental Hygiene Student Lisa Kamibayashi, West Los Angeles College (WLAC) Arezou Goshtasbi, Concorde Career College (CCC) – Garden Grove Laurel Sampson, CCC – San Diego Veronica Patino, SWC Victoria Mavfield, SWC Summery Cheam, SWC Jeressa Balagot, SWC Farah Al-jay, SWC Jean Honny, SWC, RDH Donna Smith, University of Southern California (USC) Linda Brookman, USC

# 1. Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum

Noel Kelsch, Chairperson of the Licensing and Examination Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at <u>2:38 p.m.</u> Roll call was taken and a quorum was established with three members present.

# 2. Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda

No comments from the public received.

# 3. Chairperson's Report

Chair Kelsch stated there was no report.

# 4. Approval of the November 17, 2017 Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Minutes

Chair Kelsch stated there was not enough Dental Hygiene Committee of California (DHCC) Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Members present that participated in the November 17, 2017 meeting, so the participating members at this meeting could only accept rather than adopt the subcommittee meeting minutes.

Chair Kelsch requested comments from the public or the Subcommittee.

No comments received.

The November 17, 2017 Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Minutes were accepted.

# 5. Licensure Statistics

Anthony Lum, Executive Officer (EO) for the DHCC, presented a series of handouts regarding licensure statistics.

EO Lum requested questions or comments from the Subcommittee.

President Good questioned if historically the population growth was common.

EO Lum directed President Good to the handout which displayed the population of registered dental hygienists (RDH), registered dental hygienist in alternative practice (RDHAP), and registered dental hygienist extended functions (RDHEF) from 2014 to 2018. He stated that the years 2014 and 2015 include an asterisk, as the previous tracking system was flawed and double counted some licensees. In addition, a footnote was added to disclose that the 2014 and 2015 number of licensees is inaccurate. Years 2016, 2017, and 2018 have been verified as an accurate count of licensees. EO Lum continued that there has been a gradual increase in RDH licenses; RDHAP licenses have experienced marginal growth; RDHEF licenses have remained the same as this type of license is no longer issued.

EO Lum requested questions or comments from the Subcommittee.

No comments received.

# 6. Written Examination Statistics

EO Lum presented the Law and Ethics Examination statistics. Eighty percent of RDH examinees and 50% of RDHAP examinees earned passing scores.

Chair Kelsch commented that there is a high fail rate for the RDHAP Law and Ethics Exam.

EO Lum stated that this issue was discussed with the Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) as they assist in creating the Law and Ethics Exam. It was determined that there is a multitude of reasons why examinees fail the exam, including test anxiety and bad preparation.

Chair Kelsch questioned if the DHCC is reviewing the RDHAP Law and Ethics Exam to determine if there is something within the Exam content that is causing failure among examinees. Previously, it was discussed by the DHCC to incorporate and direct the language of the examination toward a younger generation.

EO Lum stated that there is an agenda item regarding exam development, so he will be addressing those concerns in that segment.

Chair Kelsch requested comments from the public or the Subcommittee.

Donna Smith, USC, questioned if the DHCC provides an item analysis to research if any questions or topics are the most missed questions on the exam. Ms. Smith stated if an item analysis is conducted, the DHCC can report to the RDHAP educational programs to review if there is a disconnect between the program education and the exam. In addition, the exam is a computer based exam; therefore, recent graduates may have an advantage over older age brackets of RDHAPs.

Chair Kelsch stated that the failure rate of the RDHAP Law and Ethics Exam has increased in severity. Data provided for November 10, 2016 – March 29, 2017 indicates the failure rate was 25 percent. In addition, data provided for October 4, 2017 – March 7, 2018 indicates that the failure rate increased to 50 percent.

Vickie Kimbrough (Taft College, Purple Pen) requested the DHCC to provide exam statistics individualized for California dental hygiene educational programs versus out-of-state dental hygiene educational programs to address a possible disconnect. Dr. Kimbrough stated that she received feedback from students who have taken the exam which reported concerns with the ethics portion.

Jean Honny, SWC, RDH, suggested that for the sake of data collection, a post-exam survey may be given to examinees to gather data on areas that may have seemed ambiguous.

Chair Kelsch recommended EO Lum conduct research to find out what specific areas examinees are experiencing the most concerns and make considerations for examinee age groups and similar categories.

President Good added that EO Lum should explore the possibility of adding post-exam surveys.

EO Lum stated that it was recommended to the DHCC for the Law and Ethics Examination to be treated as a learning tool where examinees can self-remediate if they had failed the exam. However, OPES stated that the Law and Ethics Exam is not meant to educate, it is meant to test an individual for minimum competency.

There were no further comments.

7. Discussion and Possible Action, and Recommendation to the Full Committee on Occupational Analysis and Examination Development for RDH and RDHAP

EO Lum stated that a normal Occupational Analysis (OA) is conducted every five to seven years, to verify that it accurately describes current practice of the dental hygiene

profession. An OA's purpose is to define a profession in terms of the actual tasks that new licensees must perform safely and competently at the time of licensure. To develop an examination that is fair, job-related and legally defensible, it must be solidly based upon what licensees actually do on the job. The last OA was completed in 2010, so a new one will need to be completed soon.

EO Lum stated he met with OPES to obtain information regarding an OA and obtained information on exam development. Exam development needs to be addressed to create a new bank of questions for the RDH and RDHAP Law and Ethics Examinations. The process is lengthy, and licensee resources will need to be contacted for a pool of experts to participate in the exam development. Financially, it would be in the best interest of the DHCC to conduct the OA in fiscal year (FY) 2018/19 and overlap the cost of examination development in the latter part of FY 2018/19 and continue into FY 2019/20.

EO Lum requested the DHCC Licensing and Examination Subcommittee discuss and determine whether an OA is needed and make recommendations to the Full Committee to proceed on a contract with the OPES to conduct the OA.

Motion: Chair Kelsch moved to allow Executive Officer Lum to proceed on a contract with the OPES to conduct an OA.

Second: Sandra Klein

Chair Kelsch asked if any member of the public or the Subcommittee would like to comment.

JoAnn Galliano, RDH, MS, DHCC Educational Consultant and Subject Matter Expert (SME) stated that the criteria for the OA states that you cannot have anyone who is an instructor be on the subject matter expert (SME) committee. She stated that it would be difficult to have someone working on exam development who does not have an educational background. She questioned why OPES feels that having RDH educators would compromise the process of developing a new examination. Additionally, she questioned if the DHCC has an opportunity to look at the final OA to verify that it is capturing the vital information needed.

Executive Officer Lum stated that he would conduct further research to address Ms. Galliano's concerns.

There were no further comments.

Vote: Motion allow Executive Officer Lum to proceed on a contract with OPES to conduct an OA. Passed 3:0.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Noel Kelsch	X		
Susan Good	X		
Sandra Klein	X		

# 8. Discussion and Possible Action, and Recommendation to the Full Committee on Proposed Revision of Business and Professions Code § 1917(b) – Time Period to Accept Clinical Examination Results for Licensure

EO Lum stated that this topic is a remainder from the November 2017 meeting, as the DHCC members could not decide on the number of years in which an individual can obtain a license that had passed the clinical exam after a number of years. In the current amended sunset bill, the new language states five years. EO Lum requested the DHCC Licensing and Examination Subcommittee discuss and determine the acceptable number of years between passing a clinical examination and applying for a dental hygiene license for recommendation to the DHCC Full Committee. The decision made by the Full Committee will then be sent to the Legislature to amend the section of law in Senate Bill (SB) § 1482.

Chair Kelsch questioned Jason Hurtado, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Legal Counsel (LC) for the DHCC, if someone has not practiced for any number of years, are there any laws or regulations set in place that state the individual would need to take a supplementary course or any other requirements of that nature.

LC Hurtado stated that currently there is no such law or regulation set in place.

Motion: Chair Kelsch moved that an individual should be licensed within two years of completing and passing the clinical exam, as licensees are required to complete continuing education every two years.

Second: Susan Good

Chair Kelsch requested comments from members of the public or the Subcommittee.

Donna Smith (USC) requested clarification if an individual completed and passed the clinical exam and was licensed in another state, if this proposed deadline will disqualify them from receiving a RDH license in California.

Chair Kelsch stated the deadline will only affect an individual who has never been licensed in any of the states of the United States.

Dr. Kimbrough stated the initial discussion revolved around the concerns of an individual who does not obtain licensure from any state in the United States after completing the clinical exam; however, the language presented does not clearly state that. Dr. Kimbrough requested clarity when the final language is created.

Jean Honny (SWC) stated individuals in this situation should be required to participate in a remediation course in addition to, or in place of, retaking the clinical exam. It is the opinion of Ms. Honny if a person does not become licensed and does not practice for a period of time, their skillset may be lost, and that remediation would enhance the applicant's skills and enable the individual to pass a clinical exam.

No further comments received.

Vote: Motion to require an individual to be licensed within two years of completing and passing a clinical exam. Passed 3:0.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Noel Kelsch	X		
Susan Good	X		
Sandra Klein	X		

# 9. Discussion and Possible Action, and Recommendation to the Full Committee on Registered Dental Hygienist Scope of Practice in a Public Health Setting – Clarifying Scope

Executive Officer Lum reported that Stakeholders/Licensees have inquired with the DHCC several times in the past to obtain clarity as to the scope of practice for an RDH working in a public health setting. Staff requests that the DHCC Licensing and Examination Subcommittee discuss and clarify the RDH scope of practice in a public health setting and respond to the questions asked while addressing this agenda item.

Chair Kelsch requested comments from the members of the public or the Subcommittee.

Linda Brookman, USC, RDH, RDHAP, clarified that an educational setting is different from a public health setting regarding RDH scope of practice. She questioned if amalgams could be polished by a handpiece and bur while doing sealants in an educational setting.

Ms. Galliano stated that she was involved with the CDHA when the duties were originally allocated between registered dental assistants (RDA) and RDHs. Polishing and contouring was not a duty that was meant to remain under the RDH scope of practice as it is more of a restorative procedure. Additionally, most dental hygiene programs were not teaching the skill to clinical competency. The more preventative and therapeutic practices were assigned to RDH scope of practice versus the restorative practices of dentistry.

President Good recommended that the Dental Hygiene Table of Permitted Duties be reviewed, adopted, and distributed at the next DHCC meeting.

# 10. Future Agenda Items

Chair Kelsch stated that the future agenda items are: remediation for individuals who would like to obtain initial licensure and have not practiced for a number of years; scope of practice on polishing and contouring restorations; Dental Hygiene Table of Permitted Duties be reviewed, adopted, and distributed.

Chair Kelsch requested comments from members of the public or Subcommittee.

A member from the public questioned if the DHCC would explore other methods for individuals who take the clinical exam in addition to the Western Regional Examination Board (WREB) and Central Regional Dental Testing Services (CRDTS).

# 11. Adjournment

Chair Kelsch adjourned the Education Subcommittee meeting at 3:21 p.m.



**Dental Hygiene Committee of California** 

**Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting** 

Agenda Item 5

**Licensure Statistics** 

(Informational Only)

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

#### DENTAL HYGIENE COMMITTEE OF CALIFORNIA

2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 2050 Sacramento, CA 95815 **P** (916) 263-1978 | **F** (916) 263-2688 | **www.dhcc.ca.gov** 



# MEMORANDUM

DATE	November 15, 2018
то	Licensing and Examination Subcommittee
FROM	Traci Napper, Program Analyst
SUBJECT	LIC 5 – Licensure Statistics

# **DHCC Licensure Statistics (as of October 19, 2018)**

LICENCE CTATUS	LICENSE TYPE				
LICENSE STATUS	RDH	RDHAP	RDHEF	FNP	TOTAL
ACTIVE	17,907	555	24	135	18,621
INACTIVE	2,069	50	2	0	2,121
DELINQUENT	3,154	85	5	57	3,301
LICENSED SUBTOTAL	23,130	690	31	192	24,043
REVOKED	25	0	0	0	25
DENIED	1	0	0	0	1
VOLUNTARY SURRNENDERED	15	2	0	0	17
CANCELLED	8,178	18	1	36	8,233
DECEASED	211	2	0	0	213
RETIRED	34	0	0	0	34
NON-LICENSED SUBTOTAL	8,464	22	1	36	8,523
TOTAL POPULATION (Licensed Subtotal plus Non-licensed Subtotal)	31,594	712	32	228	32,566

#### **LICENSE TYPES**

Registered Dental Hygienist - RDH
Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice – RDHAP
Registered Dental Hygienist in Extended Function - RDHEF
Fictitious Name Permit – FNP

### **LICENSE STATUS**

Active – A license that has completed all renewal requirements.

Inactive – Renewal fees paid and license placed on Inactive status.

(Reasons include: not practicing, live scan or CE incomplete)

Delinquent – Fees have not been paid for one or more renewal periods.

Revoked – Disciplinary action taken; not licensed to practice in CA.

Denied – License or application denied due to disciplinary action.

**Voluntary Surrendered** – Surrendered license voluntarily due to disciplinary action. **Cancelled** – Result from nonpayment of renewal fees for five years after expiration.



**Dental Hygiene Committee of California** 

**Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting** 

Agenda Item 6

**Written Examination Statistics** 

(Informational Only)



#### DENTAL HYGIENE COMMITTEE OF CALIFORNIA

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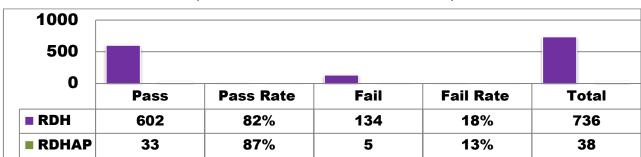


# MEMORANDUM

DATE	November 12, 2018
то	Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Members
FROM	Eleonor Steiner, Licensing Analyst
SUBJECT	LIC 6 – Written Examination Statistics

# RDH AND RDHAP WRITTEN LAW AND ETHICS EXAM

(MARCH 8, 2018 - OCTOBER 19, 2018)



RDH WRITTEN LAW & ETHICS EXAMINATION					
Date Range	RDH Candidates Tested Pass		Fa	ail	
03/08/2018 – 10/19/2018	736	602	82%	134	18%
10/04/2017 - 03/07/2018	387	310	80%	77	20%
03/30/2017 - 10/12/2017	625	515	82%	110	18%
RI	RDHAP WRITTEN LAW & ETHICS EXAMINATION				
Date Range RDHAP Candidates Tested Pass Fail					
03/08/2018 - 10/19/2018	38	33	87%	5	13%
10/04/2017 - 03/07/2018	22	11	50%	11	50%
03/30/2017 – 10/12/2017	26	15	58%	11	42%

NUMBER OF ATTEMPTS FOR PASSAGE OF THE RDH OR RDHAP WRITTEN EXAMINATION				
03/08/2018 – 10/19/2018		1 <sup>st</sup> Attempt	Multiple Attempts	Total Candidates
•	RDH	622	112	734
•	RDHAP	35	2	37
Total				771



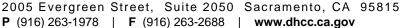
**Dental Hygiene Committee of California** 

**Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting** 

Agenda Item 7
Discussion, Possible Action and Recommendation to
the Full Committee to Address the following
Issues Presented by the California Dental
Hygienists' Association (CDHA) Pertaining to
RDH and RDHAP Scope of Practice and
Legislative Changes

#### BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES, AND HOUSING AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR.

#### DENTAL HYGIENE COMMITTEE OF CALIFORNIA





# **MEMORANDUM**

DATE	November 16, 2018
TO	Dental Hygiene Committee of California Licensing Subcommittee
FROM	Anthony Lum, Executive Officer
SUBJECT	California Dental Hygienists' Association (CDHA) Issues for Scope
	of Practice and Legislative Changes

# **Background:**

The Dental Hygiene Committee of California (DHCC) received a request letter from CDHA regarding issues for possible scope of practice and Legislative changes to the Dental Practice Act (Act) dated September 17, 2018. A subsequent letter dated October 25, 2018 was submitted as a follow-up correspondence to ensure that their request was placed on the DHCC's November 2018 meeting agenda. The various issues are presented to the DHCC Licensing Subcommittee for discussion, possible action and recommendation to the Full Committee for the scope of practice and legislative changes. The issues CDHA presents are:

- 1) Remove the restrictions of where an RDHAP may practice so they can be employed in any setting;
- 2) Allow RDHAP established practices in underserved areas to remain in practice even if the shortage area no longer exists:
- 3) Add additional duties to the RDHAP scope of practice (no additional duties identified);
- Amend the Act to ensure that necessary clarification is in place so that RDHAPs can receive payment for services rendered;
- 5) Remove the prescription requirement for RDHAPs to see patients;
- 6) Amend BPC 1911(a) to allow for RDHs to apply fluoride varnish without supervision;
- Remove the direct supervision requirement for the current SLN procedures (i.e., soft tissue curettage, local anesthesia, and nitrous oxide and oxygen analgesia) that require this level of supervision for RDHs;
- 8) Amend the Act to allow an RDH to practice under the general supervision of a dentist and physician to expand access to oral healthcare in more practice settings where underserved populations seek care;
- 9) Amend BPC 1911(c) to change "employed" to "practicing;" and
- 10) Amend the Act to include "Dental Hygiene Diagnosis" as defined by the Commission on Dental Accreditation's (CODA) updated standards and clarify that it does not include "dental diagnosis" and "comprehensive dental treatment planning" to facilitate recognition by insurers of dental hygienists as primary dental care providers.

## **Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends to the Licensing Subcommittee to review the two CDHA request letters and their contents, discuss the scope of practice issues and proposed legislative changes presented to determine any course of action or recommendation to be presented to the Full Committee for consideration.

**Pros:** Could potentially allow the dental hygiene scope of practice to expand by allowing RDHs to perform additional duties with less or no supervision and would permit RDHAPs to obtain employment in any dental location rather than be restricted to the current locations as defined by the law. This could result in an increased access to care for many consumers in need.

**Cons:** As a consumer protection agency and licensing program, staff would need to obtain additional information as to whether some of the issues CDHA has presented are within the DHCC's authority.



September 17, 2018

Anthony Lum, Executive Officer Dental Hygiene Committee of CA 2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 2050 Sacramento, CA 95815

**RE: Dental Hygiene Workforce** 

Dear Mr. Lum,

The Legislature's Sunset Review of the Dental Hygiene Committee of California (DHCC) initiated consideration of several dental hygiene workforce items.

The Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee's (JLSRC) 2018 background report noted on page 10,

"Current data from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development indicates there is no shortage of dental hygienists in California, although there continues to be a mal-distribution of these professionals due to practice limitations. The DHCC indicates that it continuously monitors workforce reports.

The primary reasons impeding the full utilization of dental hygienists are restrictive supervision requirements, scope of practice limitations, and the inability for dental hygiene practitioners to obtain direct-payment for their services.

The DHCC is seeking legislation to remove certain direct supervision restrictions and is investigating the expansion of dental hygienists' ability to provide fluoride varnish without supervision.

The DHCC is also exploring using the portfolio concept, similar to the requirement for dentists, to demonstrate professional competency for dental hygienists prior to licensure in addition to, or instead of, satisfactory completion of a practical examination."

To follow up on these items raised in the JLSRC background report, and for strategic planning purposes, CDHA requests the DHCC review the following questions and place on the agenda for your November 2018 meeting:

Mr. Anthony Lum September 17, 2018 Page 2

#### Is it in the best interest of consumers to ...?

- limit the settings in which RDHAPs are authorized to work (issue #5)
- create a new Dental Therapist licensure category that requires an RDH license and BS degree or instead add duties to the RDHAP scope of practice
- require RDHAP patients to obtain a prescription prior to receiving care from an RDHAP (issue #7)
- limit the settings in which an RDH is authorized to work (issue #8)
- require supervision when RDHs apply fluoride varnish

We look forward to DHCC's responses based on DHCCs expertise in dental hygiene workforce and best practices for consumer protection. Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Beth Wilson, RDH, BS

President

California Dental Hygienists' Association



OCT 2 9 2018

DENTAL HYGIENE COMMITTEE OF CA

October 25, 2018

Anthony Lum, Executive Officer Dental Hygiene Committee of California 2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 2050 Sacramento, CA 95815

**RE: Dental Hygiene Legislation** 

Dear Mr. Lum,

The California Dental Hygienists' Association (CDHA) is ready to move forward with legislation in 2019 as follow up to the Dental Hygiene Committee of California (DHCC) 2018 Sunset Review.

CDHA representatives, Maureen Titus, RDHAP and Lisa Okamoto, RDH will be present at the November DHCC Board meeting. We request the following issues, identified in the Sunset Review which will require legislation, be placed on the Legislative Subcommittee Agenda for the November 2018 meeting.

Per its 2018 Sunset Report, the DHCC is proactive in seeking ways to implement its statutory mandate, to permit the full utilization of dental hygienists in order to meet the dental care needs of all of the state's citizens. Primary impediments noted are restrictive supervision requirements, scope of practice limitations and the inability for dental hygiene practitioners to obtain direct-payment for their services (DHCC report Pages 55-56). The DHCC report indicates support for the following issues requiring legislative changes:

# Removing restrictive supervision requirements

- Removal of direct supervision restriction (Per Sunset Report Pg 56 and 60, DHCC has approved and will continue to work with CDHA to support legislation to remove this requirement.)
- Amend Act so that RDH practice is under the general supervision of a licensed dentist or a physician, expanding access to oral health in more practice settings where underserved populations seek care

# Remove practice restrictions for RDH working without supervision in public health settings (DHCC Sunset Report new issue Pg 63)

- Amend 1911(a) to allow a dental hygienist to provide fluoride varnish without supervision.
- o amend 1911(c) to read "...an RDH <u>practicing</u> as described" versus "employed" which is confusing and to remove language restricting to only public health programs created by federal state or local law or administered by a federal, state or local government, and expand to include other sponsors of such programs.

(The Joint Legislative Committee on Sunset Review (JLSRC), Background Paper Issue #8, asks the DHCC to determine what was specific about public health programs that led them to current restrictions.)

# Scope of practice limitations:

 Expand RDHAP unsupervised dental hygiene services to all any settings, which may include all settings authorized to employ an RDHAP. (The JLSRC Paper includes this in Issue #5 Pg 15-16 and asks the DHCC to "determine original intent of restrictions.")

#### Reduction of administrative barriers:

- Allow RDHAP practices established within a Dental Health Professional Shortage Area (DHPSA) to remain in practice after DHPSA designation is deemed to no longer exist. (The DHCC supports the JLCSR recommendation that legislation should be sought to make the necessary changes to the BPC. Sunset Report Pg 59)
- Amend Act to "ensure that necessary clarifications are made in order to better allow RDHAPs to receive the payment for services they provide." (DHCC says it has the statutory authority to make a change to existing language. Pg 65 DHCC report.)
- O Amend Act to include "<u>Dental Hygiene Diagnosis</u>" (as defined by the updated CODA standards) in the practice of DH and to clarify that DH practice does not include "<u>Dental</u>" diagnosis and comprehensive "<u>dental</u>" treatment planning, to facilitate recognition by insurers of dental hygienist as primary dental care providers.

Due to the need to move forward with any bill language needed to make statutory changes prior to the end of 2018, CDHA is requesting the committee prioritize

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these issues to determine whether the DHCC will support legislative changes for the 2019 legislative session.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beth Wilson, BS, RDH

President

California Dental Hygienists' Association

CC:

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**Dental Hygiene Committee of California** 

**Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting** 

Agenda Item 8

**Future Agenda Items** 



**Dental Hygiene Committee of California** 

**Licensing and Examination Subcommittee Meeting** 

Agenda Item 9

**Adjournment**