

Dental Hygiene Committee of California

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LICENSING/EXAMINATION STANDING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

**Sunday, January 10, 2010
Evergreen Hearing Room
2005 Evergreen Street, 1st Floor
Sacramento, CA 95815**

Agenda Item 1 – Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum

The Subcommittee Meeting was called to order and a quorum was established.

Members Present

Michelle Hurlbutt, RDH
Cathy DiFrancesco, RDH
Rhona Lee, RDHEF

Staff Present

Lori Hubble, Executive Officer
Traci Napper, AGPA
Nichole Johnston, SSA
Kathy Mulvaney, Retired Annuitant
Shirley Moody, Retired Annuitant

Ms. Hurlbutt asked the Members to introduce themselves and welcomed everyone present to the first meeting of the Subcommittee.

Agenda Item 2 – Appointment of Examination Personnel

The Subcommittee approved the following appointments:

1. Cynthia Nelson – Chief Examiner
2. Kerry Brumbaugh – First Assistant Chief Examiner
3. PJ Attebery – Second Assistant Chief Examiner
4. Lori DeCaro – Examination Statistician
5. Stephanie Lemos – Clinic Floor Supervisor
6. Educators
 - a. Debi Gerger
 - b. Kathy Ninomiya
 - c. Judy Yamamoto
 - d. Lupe Arevalo
 - e. Kay Murphy
 - f. Karen Henderson

It was pointed out that the Chief, First Assistant Chief and Second Assistant Chief are appointed for a two year term, which will run through December 2012.

Agenda Item 3 – Examination Statistics

Nichole Johnston explained that the statistics reflect the most current information. Changes from the statistics presented at the December DHCC meeting are as follows:

- RDH Law and Ethics statistics are current through January 7, 2010.
- RDHAP Law and Ethics statistics are current through January 7, 2010.

Lori DeCaro explained her role in developing examination statistics and those involved in compiling this information. She works with examiner-in-training to identify their strengths and weaknesses. The chief examiner is consulted in order to resolve any weakness of a trainee. When it is felt the trainee is ready, that person is moved up to examiner. Ms DeCaro informed the subcommittee that two trainees have recently been moved to examiner positions and six new persons will be in training .

Ms. Hurlbutt thanked her for her continued assistance and dedication.

Agenda Item 4 – Proposed regulations relating to courses in the administration of nitrous oxide and oxygen, administration of local anesthetic agents and periodontal soft tissue curettage (California Code of Regulations, Section 1072.2)

Ms. Hurlbutt led the discussion on the review of the application proposed to set forth California Code of Regulations §1072.2. The exchange of ideas and opinions over the usage and definition of various terms:

- The term minimum standard of competency was questioned as it was opined that if candidates are successful in the examination then it can be assumed that they are competent vs the range of competencies measured in educational settings, current dental board clinical exams and the historical usage of the term in several statutes and regulations.

Supporting the elimination of the term “minimum competency” to “competency” were DHCC subcommittee chair, Hurlbutt and audience members, Katie Dawson and JoAnn Galliano.

- Supporting the retention of the term “minimum competency” were DHCC subcommittee members DiFrancesco, Lee and all of the Sacramento City College faculty members present.
- Defining what constitutes sedation and the methodology used was discussed.
- The term “instructional objectives” was suggested to reflect current terminology.
- The difference between laboratory and pre-clinical instruction was addressed.

- Supporting the delineation of instruction as didactic and clinical for clarity and simplicity were Chair Hurlbutt, Dawson and Galliano.
- Supportive of retaining the hours in the application draft, as specified, to address the educational deficiencies of the out-of-state applicants were DeFrancisco, Lee and all of the Sacramento City College faculty members present. DeFrancisco gave testimony of her own experience as an out-of-state RDH applicant.
- Noted were overlapping hours required in each subject related to safety, infection control and CPR. Joan Greenfield offered to attempt to separate the overlapping hours.
- Discussion was held regarding didactic instruction relating to the administration of local anesthesia, approved on-line didactic instruction, defining didactic, laboratory and pre-clinical instruction, the number of hours required in each subject.

Audience members participating in the discussions included:

- JoAnne Galliano, RDH, MEd, Chabot College Dental Hygiene Program Director
- Shanda Wallace, RDH, Sacramento City College Faculty
- Carol Lee, RDH, BA, Sacramento City College Adjunct Professor
- Carol Minter, RDH, Sacramento City College Professor
- Katie Dawson, RDH, California Dental Hygiene Association (DCHA) Legislative Representative.
- Joan Greenfield of Sacramento City College. RDAEF, RhD, Sacramento City College Professor

Input, which had been provided by DHCC members, was also reviewed with discussion on whether or not to incorporate the suggestions into the Application.

Chair Hurlbutt stated she wished to have the opinion of subject matter experts. Member DeFrancisco wished to accept the opinion of the subject matter experts present.

It was noted by Joan Greenfield that for several decades Sacramento City college was the sole California educational program offering board approved coursework in the administration of local anesthesia, nitrous oxide and oxygen sedation, and periodontal soft tissue curettage for out-of-state applicants and for those RDHs who were not licensed in those functions.

At the suggestion of Rhona Lee, the subcommittee decided that a group of subject matter experts would be identified and requested to revise the application for final approval by the DHCC.

Agenda Item 5 - Review of California Code of Regulations, Section 1079.2 (1) relating to clinical practice hour requirements for educators who wish to be licensed as a Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice

It was pointed out that California Code of Regulations Section 1079.2 is superseded by Business and Professions Code §1922. That section of the B&P Code states:

"The committee shall license as a registered dental hygienist in alternative practice a person who demonstrates satisfactory performance on an examination in California law and ethics required by the committee and who meets either of the following requirements:

(a) Holds a current California license as a registered dental hygienist and meets the following requirements:

(1) Has been engaged in the practice of dental hygiene, as defined in Section 1908, as a registered dental hygienist in any setting, including, but not limited to, educational settings and public health settings, for a minimum of 2,000 hours during the immediately preceding 36 months.

(2) Has successfully completed a bachelor's degree or its equivalent from a college or institution of higher education that is accredited by a national agency recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation or the United States Department of Education, and a minimum of 150 hours of additional educational requirements, as prescribed by the committee by regulation, that are consistent with good dental and dental hygiene practice, including, but not necessarily limited to, dental hygiene technique and theory including gerontology and medical emergencies, and business administration and practice management.

(b) Has received a letter of acceptance into the employment utilization phase of the Health Manpower Pilot Project No. 155 established by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 128125) of Chapter 3 of Part 3 of Division 107 of the Health and Safety Code"

PUBLIC COMMENT

JoAnn Galliano, Chabot College, said that it appears that there is some confusion on DHCC's website regarding WREB. She feels that WREB should be for initial licensure and not replace Licensure by Credential.

Shanda Wallace, RDH, mentioned that currently there are no guidelines regarding the number of times a candidate can fail California's examination, but become licensed through the WREB. She requested that the DHCC address this issue to prevent the circumvention of passing California's licensure examination.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.