

## **Allied Dental Committee Meeting**

April 15, 2024

4:30 pm

Open WebEx/Teleconference Meeting

### Call to Order

Heidi Donnelly called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

### Board Members Present

Heidi Donnelly, LDA, Chair  
Trina Courtright, DH, ADT  
Rick Nolting, DDS

### Board Staff Present

Bridgett Anderson, Executive Director  
Brian Cochran, Assistant Director Licensing and  
Credentialing  
Kathy Johnson, Legal Analyst  
Mary Luecke, Executive Administrative Assistant

### Approval of Draft Agenda

The April 15, 2024 agenda was reviewed and approved.

### Review and Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

The February 20, 2024 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

### Reports

Executive Director Bridgett Anderson provided an update and reviewed PSI Testing Service's Dental Assistant State Licensure Exam (DASLE) report information for calendar year 2023. The DASLE has a 71 percent pass rate which is an increase after exam revisions from the DASLE Task Force were implemented. First-time DASLE pass rates are 75 percent. The MN Jurisprudence Examination is now open book and there is an overall 70 percent pass rate. The first-time Jurisprudence pass rates are currently 75 percent. There have been very few recent requests for remediation from students who need assistance preparing for testing. She has shared remediation study materials and recordings with the schools and this approach has been beneficial. Most remediation cases are now being handled by the dental programs.

### Unfinished Business

#### **Dental Implant Supportive Procedures**

Bridgett Anderson provided background information and the Committee continued discussion of allowed expanded functions of licensed dental assistants regarding prosthodontics duties under direct supervision of a dentist. Many dental assistants who work at clinics providing implants have contacted Bridgett with scope of practice questions. There isn't specific scope of

practice for assisting with implant procedures, however some duties fall under chairside personal supervision of the dentist. Feedback from committee members could help with future rule-making projects or identify a need for special certifications.

***Licensed Dental Assistant Delegated Duties Implant Dentistry*** - Presentation by Sarah Lee, DDS, MS, FACP and Vanessa Jensen, BAS, LDA, CDA

Dr. Lee reported her practice utilizes four-handed dentistry in prosthodontics procedures and are seeking better clarity from the Board as to what degree the dentist can utilize the licensed dental assistants. Rule 3100.8400 states unlicensed and licensed dental assistants are permitted to *“provide any assistance, including the placement of articles and topical medication in a patient’s oral cavity during dental treatment under the personal supervision of a dental or dental therapist”*. Treatments or procedures not authorized by Rule 3100.8400 are not permitted.

The Committee agreed to develop a guidance document for licensed dental assistants utilized in four-handed prosthodontics procedures. The Committee agreed the following areas are already allowed in licensed dental assistant scope of practice under the dentist’s personal supervision:

- Place and remove temporary healing abutments, cover screws, and comfort/healing caps. (Licensed dental assistants would not be able to torque components.)
- Place and remove prosthetic components during impressions and records. An X-ray should be taken following to assure the components are properly placed and the dentist must approve.
- Place and remove scan bodies.
- Assist in the use of contra-angle torque control drivers at the direction of a dentist or specialist to begin the process. The dentist would finish torquing. The licensed dental assistant would not be able to complete a final torque of a dental implant component.
- Place healing screws. (Dental assistants would not be allowed to torque screws. The dentist must do the final torque.)
- Assist dentist or specialist with the placement of a definitive implant abutments. (The licensed dental assistant would not be able to complete a final torque of the definitive implant abutment.)

The following is already allowed in licensed dental assistant scope of practice under the dentist's general supervision:

- Placement and removal of temporary restoration materials inside implant access channels along with place and remove temporary dentures.

MOTION: Rick Nolting made a motion to draft a guidance document with procedures and supervision levels for implant procedures to present before the full Board of Dentistry at the July 2024 board meeting. Heidi Donnelly second.

VOTE: For: 3  
Opposed: 0

RESULT: Motion passed

Bridgett Anderson will provide draft language for a guidance document at the next meeting and discussion will continue.

New Business

None

Announcements

Neuromodulations for dental hygienists will be on the next agenda and Bridgett Anderson is in the process of collecting survey data from dentists.

Adjourn

Heidi Donnelly, adjourned at 5:27 pm.

Reviewed by: Heidi C. Donnelly, LDA  
Heidi Donnelly, LDA, Chair

May 21, 2024  
Date