



STATE OF IOWA

IOWA DENTAL BOARD

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

MELANIE JOHNSON, J.D.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

IOWA DENTAL BOARD DENTAL HYGIENE COMMITTEE OPEN SESSION MINUTES

October 14, 2010

IDB Conference Room
400 S.W. 8th St., Suite D
Des Moines, Iowa

Committee Members

Gary D. Roth, D.D.S.	Present
VaLinda J. Parsons, R.D.H., Chair	Present
Marijo A. Beasler, R.D.H.	Present

Staff Members

Melanie Johnson, Jennifer Hart, Phil McCollum

Attorney General's Office

Theresa O'Connell Weeg, Assistant Attorney General

CALL TO ORDER FOR NOVEMBER 16, 2010

Chairman Parsons called the meeting of the Dental Hygiene Committee of the Iowa Dental Board to order at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 14, 2010. A quorum was established with all three members present.

Roll Call:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Beasler</u>	<u>Parsons</u>	<u>Roth</u>
Present	x	x	x
Absent			

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ❖ MOVED by Beasler, SECONDED by Roth, to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2010, Dental Hygiene Committee meeting. Motion APPROVED unanimously.

POLICY DISCUSSION: RDH AND EXPANDED FUNCTIONS

Dental assistant registration became effective in July 2001. 650 IAC 20.2(153) states that the term “dental assistant” does not include persons otherwise actively licensed in Iowa to practice dental hygiene or nursing who are engaged in the practice of said profession. Rules related to expanded functions for dental assistants became effective in 2004.

Board rules have been interpreted to mean that licensed dental hygienists can work as dental assistants under the scope of their dental hygiene license – when registration became effective, there were no “regular” duties that dental assistants perform that a license to practice dental hygiene does not also authorize. Therefore after registration was effective, board staff administratively lapsed the dental assistant registration of any person who subsequently became licensed as a dental hygienist. Exact numbers of assistants/hygienist affected by this change are impossible to determine with the existing database; staff estimate approximately 50 hygienist per year since 2002.

After expanded function rules became effective in 2004, the board office received a few inquiries as to whether dental hygienists were also eligible to take expanded function training. These persons were advised that board rules do not authorize hygienists to take expanded function training.

In the past few months, the board has received two inquiries asking again whether a hygienist can perform expanded function duties. In both of these cases the hygienist in question had previously been registered as a dental assistant, although the hygienist had not trained in expanded function duties at that time. The committee agreed that dental hygienists would be qualified to take expanded function training. The committee felt the duties would fall within the scope of the dental hygiene license if the hygienist completed training equivalent to that required of dental assistants. These

- ❖ MOVED by Roth, SECONDED by Beasler, to draft administrative rules to authorize dental hygienists to perform expanded functions under the direct supervision of a dentist. The rules should be modeled after the rules for dental assistant expanded function duties. Motion APPROVED unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

- ❖ MOVED by Roth, SECONDED by Beasler, to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to review and discuss records which are required by state law to be kept confidential.
- ❖ Roll Call:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Beasler</u>	<u>Parsons</u>	<u>Roth</u>
Aye	x	x	x
Absent			

Motion APPROVED by ROLL CALL.

- The committee convened in closed session at 9:45 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Parsons adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melanie Johnson".

Melanie Johnson, J.D.
Executive Director

MJ/jh