

Nebraska Board of Dentistry

Newsletter

July 2003

Carol Brown RDH
2002, 2003
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Omaha

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2002, 2003 Vice-
Chairperson
Lincoln

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Omaha

Chairperson's Message

The year 2003 promises to be a year of changes in the Department of Health and Human Services. We have already seen outcomes of the initial NCR 2000 study with more to come. In the past year, the Board of Dentistry has addressed faculty licensure, the end of oral examinations for reciprocity candidates, proposals for licensure fee restructuring, continued competency, and the far reaching effects of Nebraska's budget woes.

As I reflect on the past year, I would urge each of you to consider the following as we renew our commitment to the citizens of Nebraska to practice dentistry in a safe and professional manner.

1. I will check my credentials to assure they are current.

The term "Grandfather" does not excuse you from applying for permits. Everyone who uses sedation (nitrous, I.V., or general) must have a current permit. The permit belongs to licensee at a specific practice site. If there are multiple dentists using sedation in a practice, each must have a separate permit. These permits do have expiration dates and you must renew them if you choose to continue to sedate patients.

All hygienists that choose to administer local anesthetics must have a permit. It doesn't matter whether the course was in 1996 or 2002 or you just graduated...you need a permit.

All dental assistants who expose radiographs or perform coronal polishing must have proof of completing a Board approved course.

2. I will communicate with my patients using compassion and clarity.

Many of the complaints we receive appear to reflect the simple fact that some dental professionals aren't very personable. If patients are treated with respect, patience and competency we will continue to be a profession with patient satisfaction.

3. My treatment records will be an accurate account of each and every patient contact.

Does this look familiar to you as treatment record entries?

11-12-02	MOD #15
12-09-02	crown prep #12
12-22-02	Ex, pro, fl, 2BW

If so, please contact your malpractice insurance carrier for advice as to what constitutes a comprehensive treatment entry.

These three items reflect a few of the most common complaints from the public. In other words,..."Be nice, play well with others, and do your best'...(from our Mothers).

Sincerely,

Carol J. Brown RDH

Meeting Highlights From 2002

January 11, 2002 - The Board elected new officers for the year. Doctors Haisch, Mark Hinrichs, Merritt, and Wilcox were appointed by the Board to be additional CRDTS dental examiners. The four additional CRDTS dental hygiene examiners appointed were, Pam Brinkman, Teena Beehner, Gwen Hlava, and Cynthia Gaskill.

April 5, 2002 – Helen Meeks presented the Credentialin Division Cash Management Plan. The Board was informed that \$4,000,000 would be transferred to the General Fund from the Credentialing Division Cash Fund.

July 12, 2002 – The Board discussed different methods of determining continued competency. The continued use of continuing education hours was approved. Faculty licensure application and the oral examination requirements for reciprocity candidates were discussed. The Board approved drafting regulations that would allow the acceptance of other regional clinical examinations.

October 11, 2002 – The CRDTS Steering Committee report and the Examination Review Committee report were presented. The Board was given an update on NCR 2000. Funding continuing education programs was discussed. The Board approved regulations for faculty licensure.

2002 & 2003 Legislation that Affects the Dental Profession

In the 2002 Legislative Session, LB 1062 bill provides for faculty licenses for dentists who are faculty members at an accredited dental education institution in Nebraska. Such licensees may teach dentistry, conduct research, and participate in a faculty practice at the accredited institution. The bill sets out requirements for applicants who have graduated from an accredited dental education institution. In addition, it sets out separate requirements for

applicants who have graduated from a dental education institution not located in the United States by:

- allowing these applicants to obtain the faculty license prior to passing Parts I and II of the National Board Dental Examination;
- allowing these applicants to obtain the faculty license based on two years of postgraduate education at an accredited dental education institution rather than requiring licensure in another state as required for graduates of accredited schools; and
- requiring these applicants to limit their practice to the clinical discipline in which he or she has received postgraduate education at an accredited dental education institution.

The Senators are in working on issues of the 2003 Legislative Session. The

Sleep Dentistry

The Nebraska Board of Dentistry, like many other State Boards, is concerned about the safety of “Sleep Dentistry.” Several states have recently reported an increasing number of adverse reactions to “Sleep Dentistry” medications.

At its January meeting the Board initiated a review of “Sleep Dentistry” procedures and is seeking additional information from experts in the field of dental anesthesia. The Board hopes to have its review over soon and then will be issuing rules and regulations, which will insure the public safety.

In the meantime, the Board encourages all practitioners who utilize “ Sleep Dentistry” procedures and medications to be extremely cautious and remember that patient safety is everyone’s first responsibility.



How Well Does Your Staff and You Know the Dental Practice Act?

How up to date are you and your staff on the Dental Practice Act? This might be a good topic for your next staff meeting.

TRUE OR FALSE

- 1. Licenses must be renewed every year.
True _____ False _____
- 2. Failure to keep written records is considered unprofessional conduct.
True _____ False _____
- 3. A licensed dentist who has been administering inhalation analgesia since 1987 does not need to be issued the inhalation analgesia permit.
True _____ False _____
- 4. A certified dental assistant who holds a current CPR certificate may start I.V.'s for parenteral sedation as long as the dentist who holds the parenteral sedation permit is in the office.
True _____ False _____
- 5. A dental hygienist, approved to administer local anesthesia, may do so under the general supervision of a licensed dentist.
True _____ False _____

- 6. A license to practice dentistry is automatically revoked if it isn't renewed within 30 days of the expiration date.
True _____ False _____
- 7. A patient must be allowed to review their records.
True _____ False _____
- 8. A dental assistant must have a certificate of radiological proficiency before taking radiographs?
True _____ False _____
- 9. A temporary license will expire 2 years from the date of issuance.
True _____ False _____
- 10. Licensees must complete 30 hours of continuing education per year.
True _____ False _____
- 11. A dentist or dental hygienist must report themselves to the Department if they have been convicted of a misdemeanor or a felony.
True _____ False _____

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

- 1. Can lasers be used by dental hygienists for periodontal treatment?
- 2. Can dental assistants use Zoom-Chairside Whitening System under the supervision of a dentist?
- 3. Can dental hygienists use Atridox?
- 4. Can volunteer staff at an emergency dental clinic obtain continuing education hours for volunteering?

****Answer on page 4**

How Well Did Your Staff and You Know the Dental Practice Act?

Answers to the TRUE – FALSE Questions:

1. **FALSE – 56-006 PROCEDURES FOR RENEWAL OF LICENSE:** All initial licenses shall expire on March 1 of each odd numbered year.
2. **TRUE – 56-012.01 UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:** Failure to keep written dental records and medical history records justifying the course of treatment of the patient including, but not limited to, patient histories, examination results, test results, and X-rays, if taken.
3. **FALSE – 56-011.03 ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT TO ADMINISTER INHALATION ANALGESIA:**
 - a. Has a current valid Nebraska dental license;
 - b. Maintains a properly equipped facility;
 - c. Has a current valid certification in basic life support from the American Red Cross or American Heart Association;
 - d. Has completed an approved two-day training course or equivalent training in the administration of inhalation analgesia, which may be acquired while studying in an accredited school/college of dentistry or be a licensed dentist who had been administering inhalation analgesia in a competent and efficient manner for 12 months preceding Oct. 1, 1988; and
 - e. Submits an application for an inhalation analgesia permit, the required fee and have been issued a permit.
4. **FALSE – 56-011.02A(6):**
 - (a) The applicant is certified as competent in the administration of parenteral sedation by a university, teaching hospital or other facility; or
 - (b) (b) applicant is a licensed dentist who has been administering parenteral sedation on an outpatient basis in a competent and efficient manner for 12 months preceding Oct. 1, 1988.
5. **FALSE – 56-005.02:** A dental hygienist approved to administer local anesthesia may do so under indirect supervision of a licensed dentist.

6. **TRUE – 56-007 LICENSE REVOCATION FOR FAILURE TO MEET THE RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS:** The Department shall revoke a license 30 days after its expiration date when the licensee fails to meet the renewal requirements.
7. **TRUE - §71-8403 ACCESS TO MEDICAL RECORDS:** (1) A patient may request a copy of the their medical records or they may request to examine the contents of such records.
8. **TRUE - §71-183.01(9)** Any other person is hereby authorized, under the supervision of a licensed dentist, to take dental roentgenograms but shall not be authorized to do so until he or she has satisfactorily completed a course in radiology recommended by the Board and approved by the Department.
9. **FALSE – 56-003.011:** A temporary license shall expire one year from the date of issuance and can be renewed yearly until the postgraduate residency program ends.
10. **FALSE – 56-008.01A:** Complete 30 hours of continuing education during the preceding 24 month renewal period.
11. **TRUE – 56-005.07A:** Every health care professional shall report when he or she has been subject to a conviction of any misdemeanor or felony in this or any state, territory, or jurisdiction including any federal or military jurisdiction.

Answers to the Practice Questions:

1. Dental hygienists are authorized to use lasers pursuant to appropriate Category II educational standards suggested by the Academy of Laser Dentistry and only for those procedures authorized by their scope of practice statutes.
 2. This is not approved as an expanded function for dental assistants.
 3. Yes, they may do so under their scope of practice.
 4. The Nebraska Board of Dentistry does not offer continuing education credits for volunteer practice.
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**Disciplinary Actions Since Last Newsletter
(February 2002)**

Name	Date of Petition	Charge	Disposition	Date
May 2002				
G. C. Weber DDS	05/02	Action in Other State	Limitation	05/15/02
Anne M. Peacock RDH	05/02	Willful Uniform Licensing Law (ULL) Violation	Censure Civil Penalty	05/31/02 05/31/02 to 06/04/02
July 2002				
Darcie S. Jameson RDH	06/02	Violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act (USCA)	Revocation	07/16/02
Andrew P. Stadler DDS	07/02	Dishonorable Conduct - Unfitness	Civil Penalty Probation	07/31/02 to 01/31/04 07/31/02 to 01/31/04
October 2002				
James E. Odom DMD	02/02	Dishonorable Conduct - Unfitness Unprofessional Conduct Violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act (USCA) Aid & Abet Unlawful Practice Practice beyond Scope	Revocation	10/02/02
November 2002				
William D. Logan DDS	0902	Dishonorable Conduct - Unfitness Failure to Mandatory Report Court Conviction Alcohol Addiction	Suspension Probation	11/19/02 to 01/08/03 11/19/02 to 11/19/07
December 2002				
Joseph V. Franco DDS	12/02	Unprofessional Conduct	Probation	12/09/02 to 12/02/04

Initial Licenses Issued on Probation or with Limitations

Seteven J. Giandinoto RDH

Probation 1 yr

07/22/02

License Statistics

Licenses/Permits/Certifications (as of 1/1/2003)

	<u>Total Active</u>	<u>Issued in 2002</u>	<u>Issued by Reciprocity</u>
Dentist Licenses	1416	49	5
Dental Hygienist Licenses	854	55	5
General Anesthesia Permits	28	2	
Parenteral Sedation Permits	21	3	
Inhalation Analgesia Permits	379	29	
Local Anesthesia Certifications	350	51	
Dental Temporary License	10	1	

**Board of Dentistry Officers
Elected for 2003**

On January 10, 2003 the Board of Dentistry elected new officers.

Carol Brown RDH -- Chairperson

Robert Hinrichs, DDS -- Vice-Chairperson

Doris Schrader -- Secretary

They also determined the CE Review Committee, which includes:

**Roger Gerstner, DDS
Robert Hinrichs, DDS
Jane Stratman, RDH**

MEETING DATES

The Board has set the following dates for Board meetings in 2003:

January 10, 2003

March 28, 2003

July 11, 2003

October 10, 2003

Change of Address?

If you have moved or changed your business or mailing address, please remember to contact the Department staff with the new information. The US Postal Service has limitations on forwarding mail to a new address. You are responsible for meeting all renewal dates. If we can't find you, you are still not released from your professional responsibilities to maintain your license.

Any questions??? Please contact the staff at:
Department of Health and Human Services
Regulation and Licensure
Credentialing Division
PO Box 94986
Lincoln NE 68509-4986

Phone: 402/471-2118
Fax: 402/471-3577

Becky Wisell
Section Administrator

Vonda Apking
Credentialing Coordinator

Shirley Nave
Credentialing Specialist

Renewal Update

The Board of Dentistry would like to thank those of you who participated in renewing your dental/dental hygiene license's **Online**. The dental profession was chosen as the pilot program and pharmacies will be the next to participate. There were 100 dental hygienists and 151 dentists that took the time and effort to help us work through the kinks.

THANK YOU

Useful Websites

The Department is working on having licensing sections websites up and running by the beginning of 2003. Here are a few websites that could be useful:

1. Regulation and Licensure: www.hhs.state.ne.us
Provides licensure status of all individuals of the health professions with a Nebraska license; provides the most recent schedule for contested disciplinary hearings; provides the most recent report on Credentialing Reform 2000; and discusses board member responsibilities.
2. Nebraska statutes:
<http://statutes.unicam.state.ne.us/>
Provides access to all Nebraska statutes.
3. Nebraska Regulations:
www.nol.org/home/SOS/Rules/rrdisc.htm
Provides access to all Nebraska regulations.

Future Licensure

The Board of Dentistry is reviewing the possibility of a voluntary dental license. This proposed license would allow dentist from other states to conduct continuing education courses with clinical components. This would also allow retired dentist to treat patients in access to care facilities. There is a possibility of obtaining a limited malpractice coverage program as currently seen in Colorado. This is a good program and one to which all Nebraska dentist's would take pride in.

NEBRASKA HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



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opportunities and does not discriminate in delivering
benefits or services.**



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Department of Health and Human Services
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