



2017 Allowable and Prohibited Duties for Dental Assistants: New Mexico



How to Use the Following Charts

- View which job designations are used in your state.
- Be sure to follow the legal requirements to perform dental radiographic procedures.
- See which tasks are not permitted by state law.
- Review all the allowable tasks for each level of dental assisting as published in the state practice act.

View the education/training/credential required for each level of dental assisting.



Arizona			
<p>Education/Training/Credential Required</p> <p>To perform specified restorative functions in Arizona under the supervision of a licensed dentist, a dental assistant must hold an Arizona Registered Function or Restorative Certificate. To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass the Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) Restorative Functioning Certificate (see requirements to candidates) Successfully complete an EFDA training course approved by the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) or a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)-accredited program AND DANB's AMP, TMP and TAMP AND the supervision of a licensed dentist, perform restorative procedures equivalent to the ASBDE criteria, including the preparation of the tooth by a licensed dentist and document these procedures on a Licensed Dental Employment Form AND the DANB for the Arizona Restorative Certificate <p>To perform general polishing procedures in Arizona under the general supervision of a licensed dentist, a dental assistant must hold an Arizona General Polishing Certificate.</p> <p>To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass the Dental Council of Public Health (DCPH) for the Arizona Restorative Certificate AND the Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) Restorative Functioning Certificate AND the Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) General Polishing Certificate AND the supervision of a licensed dentist or a coronal polishing instructor/course instructor in DANB <p>Passes the Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) Restorative Functioning Certificate and the DANB of Arizona Restorative Certificate </p>	<p>Job Title Assigned by State (P.A.)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Proposed Restorative Job Titles</p> <p>Restorative Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Radiography Requirements</p> <p>In order to legally operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures in Arizona, a dental assistant must have a current, state-approved certificate in radiography.</p> <p>To obtain a certificate, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass the national DANB Radiation Safety and Safety (RHS) exam AND the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) Restorative Functioning Certificate, issued by DANB AND be currently certified in another U.S. state with a Restorative Functioning Certificate, issued by the ASBDE <p>Restorative Functioning Certificate holders are eligible to receive dental radiography certification to use the ASBDE Restorative Functioning Certificate, issued by the ASBDE</p> <p>Restorative Functioning Certificate holders are eligible to receive dental radiography certification to use the ASBDE Restorative Functioning Certificate, issued by the ASBDE</p> <p>Restorative Functioning Certificate holders are eligible to receive dental radiography certification to use the ASBDE Restorative Functioning Certificate, issued by the ASBDE</p>

Compare your state's job designations to those used as standardized job titles in the DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study.

The numbers next to each task correspond to the 70 numbered tasks that were identified and used in the DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study. Tasks that are not numbered do not directly match one of the 70 tasks, yet are identified by the state in the practice act. A full list of those tasks follow your state's chart.

See Appendix A for more information about the task numbering system.

Arizona	
<p>Job Title Assigned by State (P.A.)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Allowable Functions</p> <p>If functions with numbers relate specifically to Core Competency designations, functions with numbers are in the state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB research.</p> <p>Under General Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Apply fluoride varnish 40. Apply sealants 41. Place interim restoratives 42. Perform coronal polishing of restorations under the direction of a licensed dentist following a consultation conducted through radiography <p>Level of Supervision Not Specified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12, 23, 51, 70. Perform placement, contouring and finishing of direct restoratives or the placement and contouring of prefabricated crowns, including the placement of the tooth by a licensed dentist; the restorative materials used will be determined by the dentist. <p>Under General Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 31. Perform coronal polishing procedures <p>Under Direct Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Remove sutures 23. Apply topical fluoride 24. Apply topical fluoride 25. Apply fluoride 26. Apply fluoride 27. 28. Remove and place restoratives 29. Remove and place restoratives 30. Remove and place restoratives 32. Remove and place restoratives 33. Remove and place restoratives 34. Remove and place restoratives 35. Remove and place restoratives 36. Remove and place restoratives 37. Remove and place restoratives 38. Remove and place restoratives 39. Remove and place restoratives 43. Remove and place restoratives 44. Remove and place restoratives 45. Remove and place restoratives 46. Remove and place restoratives 47. Remove and place restoratives 48. Remove and place restoratives 49. Remove and place restoratives 52. Remove and place restoratives 53. Remove and place restoratives 54. Remove and place restoratives 55. Remove and place restoratives 56. Remove and place restoratives 57. Remove and place restoratives 58. Remove and place restoratives 59. Remove and place restoratives 60. Remove and place restoratives 61. Remove excess cement from trays, crowns, bridges, and orthodontics 62. Remove pontical restorations with hand instruments 63. Prepare a patient for retentive resin and complete denture impressions using a dental 64. Place dental material into a patient's mouth in response to a licensed dentist's instruction 65. Cleanse the supragingival surface of the tooth in preparation for the placement of dentin covers, dental core restoratives 66. Acid etch procedures 67. Removal of denture and packs <p>Under General Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collect and record information pertaining to dental conditions 2. Collect and record information pertaining to existing restorations 3. Take or instruct patients in oral hygiene techniques 4. Perform radiographic procedures, delivery concerning the setup and placement of, and provide oral and dental radiography relative to specific office treatment

If your state's dental practice act specifically defines levels of supervision, the state-specific definition is noted below the chart. See Appendix B for more information about supervision.

These data are presented for informational purposes only and are not intended as a legal opinion regarding dental practice in any state. DANB confers with each state's dental board at least annually regarding the accuracy and currency of this information. To verify, or if you have any questions, please contact your state's dental board.

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Education/Training/ Credential Required	Job Title According to State of NM	Proposed Standardized National Job Titles (see below)	Radiography Requirements	Functions NOT Permitted by Dental Assistants in NM
<p>To earn NM certification as an expanded function dental auxiliary (EFDA), one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete an accepted EFDA course in a program approved by the board or accredited by CODA, OR Have a minimum of five years, 1000 hours per year, continuous employment as a dental assistant or dental hygienist and earn state certification in radiography, rubber cup coronal polishing and application of topical fluoride and pit and fissure sealant expanded functions and complete a course of study in subject areas prescribed by the board, including a post-test approved by the board and obtain a recommendation for EFDA certification from a supervising dentist AND pass a clinical exam accepted by the board for EFDA certification AND Earn a 75% score on the NM jurisprudence exam AND Apply for an apprenticeship permit from the NM Board of Dental Health Care AND Complete an apprenticeship within 180 days AND Return permit and signed affidavit to NM Board of Dental Health Care, which will then issue EFDA certificate <p>To perform expanded functions under the general supervision of a licensed dentist in New Mexico, a dental assistant must earn state certification. To qualify, one must:</p> <p><u>Rubber cup coronal polishing and application of topical fluoride:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study by independent preparation or in a training course in the functions and assist with/observe five cases of rubber cup coronal polishing on children and adults and five applications of topical fluoride and Pass DANB's national Coronal Polish (CP) exam and DANB's Topical Fluoride (TF) exam and Apply to the NM Board of Dental Health Care for advanced certification in coronal polishing and application of topical fluoride and Pass the state jurisprudence exam (take-home) and Perform rubber cup coronal polishing on five adults and children and application of topical fluoride on five children while being personally observed by a dentist, dental hygienist, or a dental assistant certified in rubber cup coronal polishing and topical fluoride. <p><u>Pit and Fissure Sealants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have 2,080 hours of dental assisting chairside experience in the two years prior to application and Study by independent preparation or in a training course in the function and Assist with/observe 12 pit and fissure sealant applications and Pass DANB's national Sealants (SE) exam and Apply for advanced certification in pit and fissure sealants to the NM Board of Dental Health Care and Pass the NM jurisprudence exam (take-home) and Apply pit and fissure sealants on five patients while being personally observed by a licensed dentist or dental hygienist 	<p>Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA)</p> <p>Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p> <p>Dental Assistant with state certification in expanded functions</p>	<p>DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) or Registered Dental Assistant</p>	<p>To legally operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures in New Mexico, a dental assistant must be certified. To obtain this certification, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study by independent preparation or in a training course on radiation health and safety within the past 36 months <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have assisted with or observed five cases of full mouth series intraoral radiographs (or five extraoral radiographs, if applying for limited certificate) <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass the national DANB Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) exam <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply to the NM Board of Dental Health Care for a training permit, valid for six months <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass a state radiography clinical exam, within six months of passing the DANB RHS exam <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass the New Mexico jurisprudence exam (take-home) <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply to the NM Board of Dental Health Care for certification to perform radiography <p>← The ADAA/DANB Alliance developed a listing of standardized job titles (left) based on its national Core Competencies Study conducted from 2002-2005.</p> <p>The same study utilized a list of 70 job functions which were determined to be representative of a broad range of dental assisting core competencies.</p> <p>Functions in this state that relate to the national DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study are numbered to the right, using language directly from this state's dental practice act. (The numbers correspond to the study's task numbering system.) →</p> <p>Functions listed with bullets are part of this state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB/ADAA research.</p>	<p>The following functions are not permitted by any level of dental assistant:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Final impressions, to include physical and digital impressions, for restorations or prosthetic appliances* Removal of, or addition to, the hard or soft tissue of the oral cavity Diagnosis and treatment planning Initial fitting and adaptation of prostheses Final fitting, adaptation, seating and cementation of any fixed or removable dental appliance or restoration, including but not limited to inlays, crowns, space maintainers, habit devices, anti-snoring or sleep apnea appliances, or splints Irrigation and medication of canals, cone try-in, reaming, filing or filling of root canals Other services defined as the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene Bleaching or whitening teeth without the direct or indirect supervision of a dentist Laser-assisted non-surgical periodontal treatment <p>*This task is prohibited for dental assistants and dental assistants with state certification in expanded functions. EFDA's are permitted, under direct supervision, to take impressions, including digital impressions, for permanent fixed or removable prosthetics involving single teeth; EFDA's are prohibited from taking final impressions for multiple units of crowns, bridges, cast framework, partial dentures, or full dentures final impressions.</p>
<p>A dental assistant in New Mexico is an individual who may perform basic supportive dental procedures under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist (see notes on opposite page). There are no education or training requirements for this level of dental assistant.</p>	<p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Entry Level Dental Assistant</p>	<p>These state templates reflect the work done by the ADAA/DANB Alliance to support a uniform national model for one set of dental assisting tasks, levels and requirements, which will serve as a viable career ladder for dental assistants.</p>	

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Job Title
According to
State of NM

Allowable Functions
(Functions with numbers relate specifically to Core Competency designations;
functions with bullets are in this state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB research)

Expanded
Function
Dental
Auxiliary
(EFDA)

Under Direct Supervision*

- 12, 51. Place and shape direct restorative materials into cavity preparations completed by a dentist, using instrumentation as necessary and proper for this purpose
- 43. Perform preliminary fitting and shaping of stainless steel crowns which shall undergo final evaluation and cementation by a dentist
- 46. Take impressions for permanent fixed or removable prosthetics involving single teeth, to include digital impressions; these include single crowns or single tooth replacement prosthetics; EFDAs shall not take final impressions for multiple units of single crowns, bridges, cast framework partial dentures or full dentures final impressions
- 47, 50. Cement permanent or provisional restorations with temporary or provisional cement, provided the permanent cementation will be completed or monitored by the dentist within six months
- 50. Place temporary or sedative restorations in open carious lesions after hand excavation of gross decay and debris; if pain is perceived by the patient, dentist shall evaluate lesion before completion by EFDA. The EFDA shall NOT use any automated method to clean out the lesion or prepare the tooth, including but not limited to high speed, slow speed, air abrasion, ultrasonic, laser etc.
- 50. Place temporary or sedative restorative material into unprepared tooth fractures as a palliative measure; the EFDA shall NOT use any automated method to clean out the fracture or prepare the tooth, including but not limited to high speed, slow speed, air abrasion, ultrasonic, laser etc.
- 61. Remove residual orthodontic bracket or band cement or resin from teeth after the brackets or bands have been removed by the dentist, or to prepare the tooth or teeth for re-cementation of a debonded bracket or band, using instrumentation as necessary and proper for this purpose

Under General Supervision*

- 40. Place pit and fissure sealants (under supervision as certification or licensure allows)
- 47. In emergency situation, recement temporary or permanent crowns or bridges using provisional cement when instructed to do so by the dentist, provided the permanent cementation will be completed or monitored by the dentist within six months

Note: EFDA duties are allowed under direct supervision of a NM licensed dentist provided the dentist has prepared the cavity or tooth for the restorative procedure; instructed the EFDA on the particular elements of the individual case; fully examined and evaluated the procedure carried out by the EFDA, and corrected or replaced any deficiency found in the EFDA work before allowing the patient to leave the treatment facility; the dentist is ultimately responsible for the quality of the final restorative procedure carried out by the EFDA; and not more than two EFDAs, performing expanded functions, per licensed dentist are present in office.)

Note: This state allows individuals certified as Community Dental Health Coordinators to perform a separate set of advanced restorative, palliative and educational functions. Please see the separate chart for New Mexico CDHC functions on the pages that follow.

Under General Supervision*

- 9. Rubber cup coronal polishing
- 18. Application of topical fluoride
- 22. Place and expose dental radiographs
- 40. Pit and fissure sealants

Note: New Mexico rules indicate that collaborative practice dental hygienists may work with and supervise dental assistants, including dental assistants certified to perform these expanded functions.

Under Indirect Supervision*

- 9. Rubber cup coronal polishing
 - 18. Application of topical fluoride
 - 40. Pit and fissure sealant application
 - 59. Administer nitrous oxide with the dentist's authorization
 - Any basic supportive dental procedure, not excluded elsewhere in rule or in statute
- Note:** Rubber cup coronal polishing, application of topical fluoride and pit and fissure sealants must be approved by the dentist or dental hygienist upon completion.

DANB's Note on Allowable Dental Assisting Functions

In the state of New Mexico, all dental assistants may:

- Perform infection control and occupational safety procedures
- Perform other duties not specified by this state's dental practice act

At this time, DANB cannot list all allowable dental assisting functions for each state because some states' dental practice acts outline very specific allowable functions, while others outline only prohibited functions and some contain minimal or no regulation of dental assisting duties.

Dental
Assistant
with state
certification
in expanded
functions

Dental
Assistant

*General Supervision: Authorization by a dentist of the procedures to be used by a dental assistant or expanded functions dental auxiliary and the execution of the procedures in accordance with a dentist's diagnosis and treatment plan at a time the dentist is not physically present and in facilities as designated by rule of the board
 Indirect Supervision: A dentist, or in certain settings a dental hygienist or dental assistant certified in expanded functions is present in the treatment facility while authorized treatments are being performed by a dental assistant
 Direct supervision: The process under which an act is performed when a dentist licensed pursuant to the Dental Health Care Act: (1) is physically present throughout the performance of the act; (2) orders, controls and accepts full professional responsibility for the act performed; and (3) evaluates and approves the procedure performed before the patient departs the care setting

Education/Training/ Credential Required	Job Title According to State of NM	Proposed Standardized National Job Titles (see below)	Radiography Requirements	Functions <u>NOT</u> Permitted by CDHCs in NM
<p>To work as a Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC) in New Mexico, one must obtain certification from the New Mexico Board of Dental Health Care.</p> <p>To qualify, an applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Have a high school diploma or equivalent, or a college-level degree <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Have New Mexico certification in radiography, rubber cup coronal polishing, and application of topical fluoride and pit and fissure sealant expanded functions (see p. 86 of this publication for requirements) <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Complete the New Mexico jurisprudence exam with a score of at least 75% <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Successfully complete a CDHC program approved by the NM Board of Dental Health Care 	<p>Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC)</p> <hr/> <p>Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p> <hr/> <p>Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC)</p> <hr/> <p>DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) or Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</p> <hr/> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <hr/> <p>Entry Level Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC)</p> <hr/> <p>Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p> <hr/> <p>DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) or Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</p> <hr/> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <hr/> <p>Entry Level Dental Assistant</p>	<p>To legally operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures in New Mexico, a Community Dental Health Coordinator <i>must be certified</i>. To obtain this certification, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study by independent preparation or in a training course on radiation health and safety within the past 36 months <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Have assisted with or observed five cases of full mouth series intraoral radiographs (or five extraoral radiographs, if applying for limited certificate) <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pass the national DANB Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) exam <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Apply to the NM Board of Dental Health Care for a training permit, valid for six months <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pass a state radiography clinical exam, within six months of passing the DANB RHS exam <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pass the New Mexico jurisprudence exam (take-home) <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Apply to the NM Board of Dental Health Care for certification to perform radiography <p>The CDHC workforce model was developed by the American Dental Association (ADA) to address access to care issues among underserved U.S. populations. Currently, New Mexico is the only state that has formally adopted the Community Dental Health Coordinator model.</p> <p>The CDHC model contemplates multiple career paths for those desiring to work as Community Dental Health Coordinators. For dental assistants who may aspire to the CDHC designation, the career ladder would contain these standardized job titles that appear at left.</p> <p>Some functions in the ADA/DANB Alliance's dental assisting Core Competencies Study are included in the scope of practice for CDHCs. The study utilized a list of 70 job functions which were determined to be representative of a broad range of dental assisting core competencies.</p> <p>Functions for this workforce member that relate to the national DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study are numbered to the right, using language directly from this state's dental practice act. (The numbers correspond to the study's task numbering system.)</p> <p>Functions listed with bullets are part of this state's practice act but are not specific matched to DANB/ADAA research.</p>	<p>CDHC may not perform any other procedure, duty or function under any level of supervision that is not expressly listed as allowable.</p>

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Job Title
According to
State of NM

Allowable Functions
(Functions with numbers relate specifically to Core Competency designations;
functions with bullets are in this state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB research)

Community
Dental Health
Coordinator
(CDHC)

General Supervision*

- 9. Rubber cup coronal polishing (not to be represented as a prophylaxis)**
- 18. Topical application of fluorides**
- 22, 52. Expose and develop necessary radiographs as ordered by the supervising dentist or as established in protocol by a supervising dentist
- 40. Application of pit and fissure sealants**
- 50. Place temporary and sedative restorative materials in unexcavated carious lesions and unprepared tooth fractures
 - Take a complete health and dental history
 - Observe and transmit patient data through teledentistry means to a dentist
 - Transmit prescription or medication orders on the direct order of a dentist
 - Act as an advocate for patients and the community in accessing dental care
- Provide the following limited palliative procedures:
 - 24. Instruct the patient on brushing, flossing, gingival massage or cleaning for gingival inflammation or infection
 - Application of hot/cold compresses to the face and mouth
 - Instruct patient in the use of various rinses containing salt, sodium bicarbonate, chlorhexidine, etc. as ordered by the dentist
 - Place avulsed teeth in the proper preservation solution for transport to a dentist
 - Apply pressure compresses to intraoral wounds
 - Perform any other palliative procedures as directly instructed by the supervising dentist, and within the scope of practice of the CDHC

** when previously authorized by the supervising dentist or dental hygienist and cavitation of the enamel is not present

*General Supervision: Authorization by a dentist of the procedures to be used by a community dental health coordinator and the execution of the procedures in accordance with the dentist's diagnosis and treatment plan at a time the dentist is not physically present and in the facility as designated by rules of the board

Appendix A: Numbering System for Dental Assisting Functions

The following list of 70 dental assisting tasks was developed by the ADAA/DANB Alliance as part of a study of dental assisting core competencies conducted between 2002 and 2005. These selected tasks were determined to be representative of a broad range of dental assisting core competencies.

The **numbered functions** listed in the preceding state charts correspond to functions that were included in the DANB/ADAA core competencies study and use language directly from the state's dental practice act. The numbers are provided to facilitate comparison between and among states. Functions listed with **bullets** in the preceding charts are part of the state's practice act but are not specific matches to the functions that were included in the 2002-2005 study.

1. Perform mouth mirror inspection of the oral cavity
2. Chart existing restorations or conditions
3. Phone in prescriptions at the direction of the dentist
4. Receive and prepare patients for treatment, including seating, positioning chair, and placing napkin
5. Complete laboratory authorization forms
6. Place and remove retraction cord
7. Perform routine maintenance of dental equipment
8. Monitor and respond to post-surgical bleeding
9. Perform coronal polishing procedures
10. Apply effective communication techniques with a variety of patients
11. Transfer dental instruments
12. Place amalgam for condensation by the dentist
13. Remove sutures
14. Dry canals
15. Tie in archwires
16. Demonstrate knowledge of ethics/jurisprudence/patient confidentiality
17. Identify features of rotary instruments
18. Apply topical fluoride
19. Select and manipulate gypsums and waxes
20. Perform supragingival scaling
21. Mix dental materials
22. Expose radiographs
23. Evaluate radiographs for diagnostic quality
24. Provide patient preventive education and oral hygiene instruction
25. Perform sterilization and disinfection procedures
26. Provide pre- and post-operative instructions
27. Place and remove dental dam
28. Pour, trim, and evaluate the quality of diagnostic casts
29. Size and place orthodontic bands and brackets
30. Using the concepts of four-handed dentistry, assist with basic restorative procedures, including prosthodontics and restorative dentistry
31. Identify intraoral anatomy
32. Demonstrate understanding of the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard
33. Place, cure and finish composite resin restorations
34. Place liners and bases
35. Place periodontal dressings
36. Demonstrate understanding of the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard
37. Take and record vital signs
38. Monitor vital signs
39. Clean and polish removable appliances and prostheses
40. Apply pit and fissure sealants
41. Prepare procedural trays/armamentaria set-ups
42. Place orthodontic separators
43. Size and fit stainless steel crowns
44. Take preliminary impressions
45. Place and remove matrix bands
46. Take final impressions
47. Fabricate and place temporary crowns
48. Maintain field of operation during dental procedures through the use of retraction, suction, irrigation, drying, placing and removing cotton rolls, etc.
49. Perform vitality tests
50. Place temporary fillings
51. Carve amalgams
52. Process dental radiographs
53. Mount and label dental radiographs
54. Remove temporary crowns and cements
55. Remove temporary fillings
56. Apply topical anesthetic to the injection site
57. Demonstrate understanding of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines
58. Using the concepts of four-handed dentistry, assist with basic intraoral surgical procedures, including extractions, periodontics, endodontics, and implants
59. Monitor nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia
60. Maintain emergency kit
61. Remove permanent cement from supragingival surfaces
62. Remove periodontal dressings
63. Place post-extraction dressings
64. Fabricate custom trays, to include impression and bleaching trays, and athletic mouthguards
65. Recognize basic medical emergencies
66. Recognize basic dental emergencies
67. Respond to basic medical emergencies
68. Respond to basic dental emergencies
69. Remove post-extraction dressings
70. Place stainless steel crown

Appendix B: Levels of Supervision

An important consideration in the discussion of the delegation of tasks to dental assistants is that of supervision of dental assistants by their dentist-employers. The American Dental Association (ADA) has identified five levels of supervision for dental auxiliaries, including dental assistants, which it defines in its “Comprehensive Policy Statement on Allied Dental Personnel,” (2010: 505) which is part of its *Current Policies*, last updated in 2015. Note that “allied dental personnel” refers to dental assistants, dental hygienists, community dental health coordinators and dental laboratory technicians.

The five levels of supervision defined by the ADA are as follows:

Personal supervision: A type of supervision in which the dentist is personally operating on a patient and authorizes the allied dental personnel to aid treatment by concurrently performing a supportive procedure.

Direct supervision: A type of supervision in which a dentist is in the dental office or treatment facility, personally diagnoses and treatment plans the condition to be treated, personally authorizes the procedures and remains in the dental office or treatment facility while the procedures are being performed by the allied dental personnel and evaluates their performance before dismissal of the patient.

Indirect supervision: A type of supervision in which a dentist is in the dental office or treatment facility, has personally diagnosed and treatment planned the condition to be treated, authorizes the procedures, and remains in the dental office or treatment facility while the procedures are being performed by the allied dental personnel, and will evaluate the performance of the allied dental personnel.

General supervision: A type of supervision in which a dentist is not required to be in the dental office or treatment facility when procedures are provided, but has personally diagnosed and treatment planned the condition to be treated, has personally authorized the procedures, and will evaluate the performance of the allied dental personnel.

Public Health Supervision: A type of supervision in which a licensed dental hygienist may provide dental hygiene services, as specified by state law or regulations, when such services are provided as part of an organized community program in various public health settings, as designated by state law, and with general oversight of such programs by a licensed dentist designated by the state.

Furthermore, the ADA’s “Comprehensive Policy Statement on Allied Dental Personnel” stipulates that intraoral expanded functions should be performed by allied dental personnel “under the supervision of a dentist.”

Because the study of dental assisting core competencies undertaken by the ADA/DANB Alliance did not address the question of supervision, the ADA/DANB Alliance does not make any recommendations as to the levels of supervision that should be necessary for the delegation of the tasks included in the study to dental assistants. However, the ADA/DANB Alliance believes it is important to call attention to the fact that, while the ADA has defined supervision levels in the aforementioned policy statement, which governs the ADA’s own activities and the activities of its members, these definitions have not been uniformly adopted by the dental boards of every U.S. state or district.

For the purposes of the attached charts, if a state’s dental practice act specifically defines levels of supervision, the state-specific definition is noted in the footer of the second page of the state chart.



Measuring Dental Assisting Excellence®

Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB)

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