

Iowa Dental Board meeting

The Iowa Dental Board meeting was held on Friday, June 7. The meeting was well attended by representatives of various associations and public institutions. There were multiple members of the orthodontic profession and the orthodontic association spokesperson; a board of pharmacy representative; an oral surgery representative; the Iowa Dental Association president, executive director, and lobbyist; the lobbyist for the Iowa Society of Anesthesiologists; and Iowa Association of Nurse Anesthetists lobbyist and a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA).

The board welcomed two new members, Dr. Gregory Ceraso and Dr. Lisa Holst. The board elected Dr. Will McBride for chairman, Dr. Monica Foley for vice chairman, and hygienist Mary Kelly for secretary.

During the public comment period the orthodontic association representative and the orthodontist were very concerned about orthodontic treatment provided via the internet and teledentistry. They expressed strong concern about the possible lack of a licensed orthodontist providing oversight for orthodontic treatment and about the possibility of an out of state orthodontist providing treatment. Very simply there is concern that orthodontic treatment can be provided without an orthodontist's involvement and without Iowa Dental Board regulatory control.

The representative for the Iowa Society of Anesthesiologists (ISA) stated the recent changes for pediatric sedation as proposed by the pediatric association and the pedodontic association. The ISA also provided a written statement about sedation and general anesthesia.

Certified Registered, Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) Mindy Miller offered her services to provide in office emergency training and airway management for moderate sedation providers.

Regarding dental hygiene, there was discussion about two practical treatment issues. First, the board discussed general supervision for hygiene administered local anesthesia. General supervision for local anesthesia administration by a hygienist would not require the supervising dentist to be in the facility while the hygienist was administering local anesthesia. Second, the board discussed giving hygienists authority to prescribe medications such as fluoride, Arestin, and chlorhexidine. As a matter of convenience, the hygienist would not be required to seek the dentist's written prescription for these medications. The hygienist could write and sign the prescriptions. If the medications were available in the office, the hygienist could dispense and/or administer the medications without the dentist's signature.

Proposed administrative rules and rule changes involved teledentistry, sedation, reciprocity for military spouses, and student loan default/noncompliance. Teledentistry received supportive comments from the department of public health, hygienist's association, Delta Dental, and Iowa Primary Care Association. The orthodontic representatives were very concerned about the potential lack of involvement of an orthodontist in orthodontic treatment provided via the internet. Written comment from the orthodontic association requested a public hearing on teledentistry before rule making occurred.

Regarding sedation, the board approved a sedation rule change that requires the dentist providing sedation must have one patient monitor during sedation treatment and that the patient monitor must have training in airway management and emergency treatment from one of the following courses including ACLS, DAANCE, or 3 hours on site training.

Notably if a dentist utilizes the services of another sedation or anesthesia provider such as an anesthesiologist, CRNA, or another dentist sedation provider, then the treating dentist must have a moderate sedation permit. A dentist without a moderate sedation permit cannot utilize the services of another sedation or anesthesia provider.

A notice of intended action regarding default or delinquency of payment for student loan was passed. The notice states that the board will not suspend or revoke a license for the licensee's default or delinquency on a student loan

The board did change the record retention rule regarding study models and casts. Study models and casts for less than 4 units of crown and bridge treatment do not need to be retained.

Display of documentation for level 2 expanded function providers was discussed. The board wants public awareness that the level 2 expanded function provider has the authority and training to provide expanded functions. Interestingly, there are 30 level 2 expanded function providers in the state. This issue will have further discussion.

The legislature has enacted a rule requiring mandatory child abuse and dependent adult abuse reporter training requirements every 3 years. Originally, the requirement was every 5 years.

The next board meeting is August 1-2, 2019. As always, please consider attending the board meeting. The board members appreciate and seriously consider comments from licensees.

Dr. Stephen R. Thies
IAGD legislative chairman