

Iowa Dental Board Report - January 24, 2020
Dr. Steve Thies, IAGD Legislative Chair

The Iowa Dental Board public meeting was held on Friday, January 24, 2020. The attendees included members of the Iowa Dental Hygiene Association and their lobbyist; the Iowa Dental Association representatives and executive director; a speaker from the American Dental Association Matt Grady; a representative from Delta Dental; and a representative from the dental services organization.

The executive director of the Iowa Board of Pharmacy, Andrew Funk, gave a presentation about a proposed bill by the Board of Pharmacy. The proposed bill addresses Collaborative Practice Agreements. Collaborative Practice Agreements are proposed for numerous health care providers notably including dentists. Examples of collaborative agreements would be agreements defining the conditions for prescribing medications for joint prophylaxis, prevention of endocarditis, and post surgical extraction treatment. A specific pharmacy would understand and agree to the guidelines for dispensing the defined medications. A written prescription from the treating dentist would not be required. Examples of collaborative agreements include a small town with only one pharmacy or the University of Iowa Dental College.

Also, Mr. Funk, discussed the status of electronic prescription implementation and the prescription monitoring program. Interestingly, the state of Iowa is one of the early adopters of electronic prescribing.

Matt Grady, the representative from the American Dental Association, is a statistician involved with Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Examination (DLOSCE). DLOSCE is a computerized test intended to evaluate clinical skills and to eventually replace the clinical portion of the dental examination. A national dental examination would provide standardization, allow licensure portability, and eliminate patient harm. The Integrated National Dental Board Exam (INDBE) would still be used to test the didactic education and nonclinical skills such as anatomy, biology, pharmacology etc.

The anesthesia committee reported on changing the number of committee members. Previously, the committee expanded to nine members in order to

obtain a meeting quorum. However, obtaining a quorum is still problematic. The committee is considering returning to seven members. More discussion will be done by the committee.

The Iowa Dental Board will have changes in the board members. Dr. Michael Davidson 3 year renewal will occur. He will not renew his member status on the board. Mary Kelly, RDH has served 3 terms for a total of 9 years. She is not eligible to renew her board member position. Their last board meeting will be April 3. New board members will begin their terms May 1, 2020 and their first board meeting will be June 5, 2020.

Any member of the dental profession may apply for a board position. The dental board can provide the pathway for board position application. The governor appoints the board members.

The dental board has prepared a draft of proposed rules changes involving general supervision of hygiene. The rules specifically state when examinations are required for delegation of services under general supervision. To see the examination requirements and the list of services go to the following web site and pages 28-31.

https://dentalboard.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2020/01/brd_jan2020.pdf

As always please consider attending the dental board meetings. Comments are appreciated by the board. Licensee comments are given serious consideration by the board

The next board meeting will be April 3, 2020

Dr. Stephen R. Thies
Legislative chair
Iowa Academy of General Dentistry