

## Iowa Dental Board

The Iowa Dental Board meeting was held Friday, September 25, 2020. The meeting was via Zoom. The usual representatives from the Iowa Dental Association, the Iowa Dental Hygiene Association, the association lobbyists, Public Health Department, and interested licensees attended.

The house recently passed house file HF 2267 relating to the regulation of dental hygienists and dental assistants. HF 2267 removes restrictions on settings within which dental hygienists may provide services and allows a registered dental assistant with expanded function training to place sealants. The dental board's role is the development of rules regulating these changes.

Prior to the dental board meeting today there has been intense discussion between the Iowa Dental Association (IDA) and the Iowa Dental Hygiene Association (IDHA) about the limitations, details, and wording of these rules. The intent of the IDHA was removal of restrictions on settings within which dental hygienists may provide services related to Public Health Supervision (PHS). The IDA preferred retaining the current restrictions related to PHS without any changes. Prior to the dental board meeting the IDA and IDHA agreed to a compromise which would retain the current restrictions with the addition of hospitals and prisons to the list of settings included under PHS.

There was discussion by the dental board, IDA, and IDHA about the inclusion of medical offices under PHS. The dental board voted to include medical offices under settings for PHS.

Regarding the application of sealants by registered expanded function dental assistants, prior to the meeting the IDA and the IDHA agreed to allowing expanded function level two dental assistants to place sealants. The expanded function level two dental assistant training program can be offered by the University of Iowa College of Dentistry (UICD) or a program certified by the commission on dental accreditation. Currently the UICD is the only program offering expanded function level two dental assistant training.

A Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) allowing dental license applicants to complete the clinical examination on manikins for the purposes of licensure in Iowa will be

done. There was discussion about the lack of a periodontal scaling component utilizing manikins in the clinical exam. A decision was not made at this time. More discussion will occur before the final draft for board approval. Written comments regarding this rule must be received by the Board no later than 4:30pm on November 30, 2020. Comments should be directed to

Iowa Dental Board  
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Lastly, the results of the UICD Aerosol Study were presented to the board. The link to the study is below. See pages 596-608. The summarizing letter on 596-597 is very explanatory.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_xFSBk7bjwfgEf4kVSIU8lu2IErciZbx/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_xFSBk7bjwfgEf4kVSIU8lu2IErciZbx/view)

The next dental board meeting is scheduled on November 13, 2020. Please consider attending the meeting. The meeting will be held via Zoom. Zoom makes the meeting very accessible to all dentists in the state. The dental board appreciates the attendance and involvement of dental licensees. Please consider attending.

Please respond to e-mail communication from the AGD regarding advocacy issues. Please forward the preformed e-mail communication to the legislative leaders. Advocacy for dentistry needs everyone's support

Dr. Stephen R. Thies  
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