

MANITOBA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Scope of Practise

(Revised February 2010)

- A. Introduction
- B. Practicums and Modules
- C. Current Scope of Practise Which May be Delegated

A. INTRODUCTION

This document is to provide the licensed dentists of Manitoba with approve delegated procedures for registered dental assistants and dental therapists in a private office setting as recognized by the Manitoba Dental Association. An attachment to this document is provided as it relates of the scope of practice of registered dental hygienists of Manitoba.

Having completed a CDA accredited educational program or a program recognized by the Manitoba Dental Association, the individuals identified may perform, under the effective supervision of a dentist licensed by the Manitoba Dental Association (MDA), those procedures for which a dentist can delegate as outlined in this document. Therefore, a dentist must be physically present in the dental office and available while patient services are being provided by any of these designated oral health team members.

Prior to delegating procedures, it is the responsibility of the employing dentist to ensure that an individual is qualified to perform said procedures and, where applicable, has been registered and/or certified by the Association.

Individual dentists do not have the authority to delegate intra oral services that are beyond the limits of the scope of practise as outlined in this document. Doing so would constitute a breach of the Bylaws of the Manitoba Dental Association.

B. PRACTICUMS AND MODULES

1. STUDENT PRACTICUMS

Student practicum's as it relates to the Core Programs and Specialty Modules.

In order to perform intra-oral procedures in a private dental practise as part of an educational practicum arranged by the educational institution, a student must;

1. be enrolled in an accredited Level II Dental Assisting program recognized by the Manitoba Dental Association
2. have successfully completed the theoretical and pre-clinical components and demonstrated

competency in those specific intra-oral procedures that they will be expected to perform

3. work under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist or registered dental assistant

2. SPECIALTY MODULES

These Modules are offered to qualified individuals who have received standing in one of the Core Programs. Characteristically, the Modules are of short duration and require self-study in advance of a formal laboratory/clinical session.

Orthodontics for dental assistants and dental therapists

Didactic and practical, designed to prepare Level II dental assistants and dental therapists for work in a orthodontic-oriented office. Upon completion, the individual is able to:

- Place and remove orthodontic separators;
- Fit orthodontic bands prior to cementation;
- Cement orthodontic bands;
- Tie in prepared orthodontic archwires;
- Remove orthodontic archwires;
- Remove excess cement following cementation of orthodontic bands with an orthodontic scaler
- Place direct bonded orthodontic attachments;
- Take orthodontic impressions;
- Take panoramic and cephalometric radiographs; and
- Trace cephalometric radiographs.

Expanded Intra-Oral Skills Module

At the completion of this module, the individual is able to:

- Apply topical anaesthetics
- Place treatment liners, bases, and adhesives
- Place and remove matrices and wedges
- Apply topical desensitizing agents
- Remove sutures
- Use an explorer during sealant, coronal polishing procedures and placement of matrices

Preventive Dentistry Scaling Module

At the completion of this module, the individual is able to:

- Use neutral positioning for the removal of supragingival calculus and stains in all areas of the mouth
- Use appropriate grasp for all instrumentation
- Use appropriate mirror and finger rests for all areas of the mouth
- Use indirect vision with a mouth mirror
- Adapt, angulate and activate instruments appropriately utilizing correct strokes to enable successful deposit removal to 2mm subgingival
- Use the explorer, periodontal probe, air, light and transillumination to locate and detect calculus deposits to 2mm subgingival
- Use anterior and posterior sickle scalers and universal curettes to remove coronal calculus, stains and plaque to 2mm subgingival
- Sharpen scalers and universal curettes accurately
- Identify and solve instrumentation problems

4. RE-ENTERING THE WORKFORCE

Dental Assistants and Dental Therapists who have not been employed in private practice or clinical teaching for a period of 3 years or more cannot re-enter the workforce without prior approval of the MDA Registrar.

C. CURRENT SCOPE OF PRACTISE

All MDA recognized programs currently require students to obtain certificates in CPR and first aid procedures prior to graduation. Upon graduation, it is the individual's responsibility to maintain certificates as outlined by the appropriate authority (ie. Manitoba Heart and Stroke Foundation, St. John Ambulance, or Red Cross).

A Level II dental assistant and/or dental therapist who has completed a specialty module recognized by the Manitoba Dental Association is eligible to perform the duties covered in the module, in addition to those listed on the chart.

OFFICE TRAINED AUXILIARIES

Office trained auxiliaries have no formal educational training but are trained in-office by the dentist to perform extra-oral procedures only. Office trained auxiliaries are required to have training in infection control procedures. **Excluded** from the list of extra-oral procedures are:

1. Counsel, instruct and demonstrate for the maintenance or improvement of oral health
2. Dental hygiene care - Plan in consultation with dentist
3. Diet and nutritional counselling as it relates to oral health
4. Radiographs—identify information significant to dental hygiene care
5. Vital signs - take and record

PUBLIC HEALTH (Educational)

Dental Assistants and Dental Therapists may work in a public health setting without effective supervision. They are however limited to the following:

1. Develop and deliver community dental health education programs
2. Counsel, instruct and demonstrate for the maintenance or improvement of oral health
3. Screening: use mirror, tongue depressor & light to record and chart observations. The level of screening will be limited to their education qualifications.

PROCEDURE

Office
Trained RDA THR

EXTRA-ORAL

Whitening trays - Fabricate			
Chairside assisting			
Counsel, instruct and demonstrate for the maintenance or improvement of oral health			
Custom trays - Fabricate			
Dental equipment - Maintain and care for			
Dental hygiene care - Plan in consultation with a dentist			
Dental materials - Prepare and manipulate			
Dentures - Minor repairs *			
Diet and nutritional counselling as it relates to oral health			
Health histories -record			
Mouthguards - Fabricate	NEW	NEW	
Occlusal rims - Fabricate *	NEW	NEW	
Office management functions			
Radiographs - Identify information significant to dental hygiene care			
Radiographs - Process and mount			
Recall consultations - with the dentist		NEW	
Suctioning			
Study models - Fabricate			
Tray set-ups - Prepare			
Universal precautions - Apply			
Vital signs - take and record			

* Only DA graduands from University College of the North are taught these tasks

SCREENING- PUBLIC SETTING

Identify permanent and deciduous teeth		NEW	
Identify abnormalities in tooth development		NEW	
Identify soft and hard deposits ie. Plaque, stain, calculus etc		NEW	
Identify healthy and unhealthy tissues ie. Gingivitis, recession, various oral lesions etc.		NEW	
Assess areas of plaque (plaque index)		NEW	

INTRA-ORAL

**Office
Trained RDA THR**

	Office Trained	RDA	THR
Acid Etch - Apply			
Aiding in assessing a patient's oral health status and report observations to the dentist		NEW	
Anticariogenic agents - Apply			
Whitening Trays – insert and adjust		NEW	NEW
Chemotherapeutic periodontal agents - Apply			NEW
Debridement - Supragingival and subgingival (scaling and root planing)			
Debridement of implants			NEW
Debridement to the level of the CEJ			
Deciduous teeth -Surgically remove			
Dental stain/plaque deposit removal - Selective extrinsic			
Employ diagnostic tests and indices when required			
Finish and polish dental restorations**			
Following cavity preparation by a dentist, place permanent (amalgam and composite) and sedative plastic restorative materials**			
Gingival curettage			
Impressions - Preliminary and process			
Local anaesthetics (block and infiltration anaesthesia)*			NEW
Mouthguards – Insert and adjust			
Orthodontic procedures formally taught in the Orthodontic Module***			
Overhang removals			
Periodontal dressings - Apply and Remove			
Pit and fissure sealants - Apply			
Place and remove wedges and matrices ** ~			
Place cavity liners, bases, and adhesives ** ~			
Place space maintainers to include impression taking, fitting, and cementation after diagnosis and design by a dentist ***			
Prepare for and place permanent plastic restorations or sedative dressings in primary and permanent teeth (ie. Amalgam and composite)****			
Protective Mouthguards - insert and adjust			
Pulp cappings - Direct and Indirect			
Pulpotomies			
Radiographs - Expose			
Rubber dams - Apply and remove ^			
Screenings - Epidemiological purposes in a clinical or public health setting			
Scaling - 2 mm subgingival on healthy gingiva ^^		NEW	
Stainless steel crowns on primary teeth - Prepare and Place			
Sutures -Remove			
Topical anaesthetics - Apply ~			
Topical desensitizing agents - Apply ~			

***Level II Dental Assistants must have taken an Orthodontic Module in order to be able to perform Orthodontic procedures.

**** Dental Therapists may prepare teeth for restorations on patients up to 14 year of age only

~ These skills have been incorporated in the curriculum of the UCN Dental Assisting program since 1993 and the RRC Dental Assisting program since 1996. Graduates whose Dental Assisting curriculum did not incorporate these skills can take a module offered by UCN and RRC Continuing Education Departments.

^^ Dental Assistants must take a scaling module approved by the Manitoba Dental Association. Registration of successful completion of module required.

^ Prior to 1973, rubber dam and the placing and exposing of dental radiographs were not included in the training. The individual would have to upgrade to perform these or have completed the RRC Completer Course. This Completer Course is no longer available.