
Synopsis: Dental hygienists. Amends the definition of "prescriptive supervision" with regard to circumstances under which a licensed dentist is not required to be present in a facility when patient care is provided by a dental hygienist. Restates restrictions on use of a laser by a dental hygienist. Provides that a dental hygienist may administer topical local dental anesthetics, other than nitrous oxide or similar analgesics, without supervision. Prescribes requirements for administration of nitrous oxide by a dental hygienist. Provides, for purposes of regulation of dental hygienists, that a person, other than a dentist or a physician, who administers nitrous oxide is considered to be practicing dental hygiene. Removes a limitation on the number of credit hours earned for certification in basic life support that may be applied to a dental hygienist's continuing education requirement. Provides that there is no limit on the number of credit hours a dental hygienist may earn for completion of an approved course offered by another dental hygienist.

Effective: July 1, 2020.
HOUSE BILL No. 1067

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning professions and occupations.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 25-13-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.155-2016, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 2. As used in this article:

(a) "Dental hygienist" means one who is especially educated and trained in the science and art of maintaining the dental health of the individual or community through prophylactic or preventive measures applied to the teeth and adjacent structures.

(b) "License" means the license to practice dental hygiene issued by the state board of dentistry to dental hygienist candidates who satisfactorily pass the board's examinations.

(c) "Board" means the state board of dentistry established by IC 25-14-1.

(d) "Proprietor dentist" means a licensed dentist who is the owner and operator of the dental office in which the licensed dentist practices the profession of dentistry and who employs at least one (1) licensed dentist or dental hygienist to supplement the licensed dentist's operation and conduct of the licensed dentist's dental office.

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(e) "Employer dentist" means a proprietor dentist who employs at least one (1) dental hygienist to supplement the proprietor dentist's dental service to the proprietor dentist's clientele.

(f) "Referral" means a recommendation that a patient seek further dental care from a licensed dentist, but not a specific dentist.

(g) "Screening" means to identify and assess the health of the hard or soft tissues of the human oral cavity.

(h) "Public health setting" means a location, including a mobile health care vehicle, where the public is invited for health care, information, and services by a program sponsored or endorsed by a governmental entity or charitable organization.

(i) "Direct supervision" means that a licensed dentist is physically present in the facility when patient care is provided by the dental hygienist.

(j) "Prescriptive supervision" means that a licensed dentist is not required to be physically present in the facility when patient care is provided by the dental hygienist if:

  (1) the dental hygienist has completed, with at least an average of twenty (20) hours per week, at least two (2) years of active practice as a dental hygienist under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist;

  (2) a licensed dentist:

    (A) has:

      (i) in a dental office setting, provided the patient with a comprehensive or periodic oral examination and any appropriate care in the previous seven (7) months;

      (ii) issued a written or electronic order for the specific care to be provided that is valid for not more than ninety (90) days and provided in a dental office; and

      (iii) notified the patient that the licensed dentist will not be present when the dental hygienist is providing the patient care; or

    (B) has:

      (i) in a setting other than a dental office, provided the patient with a comprehensive or periodic oral examination; and

      (ii) issued to the patient, on the same day the licensed dentist provided the patient with a comprehensive or periodic oral examination, a written order for the specific care to be provided that is valid for not more than ninety (90) days; and

  (3) the patient has provided a current medical history.

Nothing in subdivision (2)(A)(i) or (2)(B)(i) prohibits a dental hygienist from providing patient care before the licensed dentist.
provides the comprehensive or periodic oral examination if the licensed dentist provides the comprehensive or periodic oral examination on the same day that the dental hygienist has provided the patient care.

(k) "Licensed dentist" refers to a dentist licensed under IC 25-14.

SECTION 2. IC 25-13-1-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.10-2019, SECTION 109, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 10. (a) A licensed dental hygienist may practice dental hygiene in Indiana in the following:

(1) A dental office, clinical setting, or health facility where the dental hygienist is practicing under the direct supervision or prescriptive supervision of a licensed dentist.

(2) A dental school or dental hygiene school to teach and demonstrate the practice of dental hygiene if direct supervision by a licensed dentist is provided for training on providing local anesthetics by injection.

(3) The dental clinic of any public, parochial, or private school or other institution supported by public or private funds in which the licensee is employed by the state department of health or any county or city board of health or board of education or school trustee or parochial authority or the governing body of any private school where the dental hygienist is practicing under the direct or prescriptive supervision of a licensed dentist.

(4) The dental clinic of a bona fide hospital, sanitarium, or charitable institution duly established and being operated under the laws of Indiana in which the licensee is employed by the directors or governing board of such hospital, sanitarium, or institution. However, such practice must be under the direct or prescriptive supervision at all times of a licensed dentist who is a staff member of the hospital or sanitarium or a member of the governing board of the institution.

(5) A:

(A) fixed charitable dental care clinic;

(B) public health setting;

(C) correctional institution; or

(D) location other than one described in clauses (A) through (C);

that has been approved by the board and where the dental hygienist is under the direct or prescriptive supervision of a licensed dentist.

(6) Settings, other than a private dental practice, allowed under an access practice agreement that complies with the requirements...
(b) A licensed dental hygienist may provide without supervision the following:
   (1) Dental hygiene instruction and in-service training without restriction on location.
   (2) Screening and referrals for any person in a public health setting.
   (3) Dental hygiene services under an access practice agreement that complies with the requirements under IC 25-13-3.

(c) A dental hygienist may not use a laser, except to cut, ablate, or cauterize hard or soft tissue to provide treatment to a patient.

(d) The board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 concerning subsection (a)(5)(D).

(e) If a dental hygienist practices under the prescriptive supervision of a licensed dentist, the dentist's written order must be recorded, signed, and dated in the patient's records.

SECTION 3. IC 25-13-1-10.6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.103-2011, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]:

Sec. 10.6. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a licensed dental hygienist may administer local dental anesthetics under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist under IC 25-14 if the dental hygienist has:
   (1) completed board approved educational requirements, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency care training; and
   (2) received a board issued dental hygiene anesthetic permit.

(b) A dental hygienist may administer topical local dental anesthetics without supervision.

(þþ) (c) For purposes of this section, local dental anesthetics do not include nitrous oxide or similar analgesics.

SECTION 4. IC 25-13-1-10.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]:

Sec. 10.7. (a) A dental hygienist or dental assistant may administer nitrous oxide under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist if the dental hygienist or dental assistant has:
   (1) been employed in a dental practice for at least one (1) year or has graduated from a program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association;
   (2) satisfactorily completed a three (3) hour didactic educational program or curriculum, consisting of...
pharmacology, biochemistry, anatomy of nitrous oxide
administration, and the mechanics of operating a nitrous unit,
accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the
American Dental Association; and
(3) demonstrated clinical competency on at least five (5)
patients under the direct supervision of a licensed Indiana
dentist whose license is in good standing.
(b) The licensed Indiana dentist supervising the clinical
competency under subsection (a)(3) shall provide to the dental
hygienist or dental assistant a signed affidavit certifying the
competency.
(c) Upon receipt of the affidavit provided to a dental hygienist
or dental assistant under subsection (b), the provider of an
educational program or curriculum described in subsection (a)(2)
shall issue a certificate of completion to the dental hygienist or
dental assistant. The certificate of completion must be publicly
displayed in the dental office of the dental hygienist or dental
assistant.
(d) Before permitting a dental hygienist or dental assistant to
administer nitrous oxide, the supervising dentist shall verify that
the dental hygienist or dental assistant has completed the
requirements of subsection (a).

SECTION 5. IC 25-13-1-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.264-2013,
SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 11. A person is deemed to be practicing dental
hygiene within the meaning of this chapter who:
(1) uses the titles "Licensed Dental Hygienist", "Dental
Hygienist", or the letters "L.D.H.", "R.D.H.", or "D.H." in
connection with his or her name;
(2) holds himself or herself out to the public in any manner that
he or she can or will render services as a dental hygienist;
(3) removes calcific deposits or accretions from the surfaces of
human teeth or cleans or polishes such teeth;
(4) applies and uses within the patient's mouth such antiseptic
sprays, washes, or medicaments for the control or prevention of
dental caries as his or her employer dentist may direct;
(5) treats gum disease;
(6) uses impressions and x-ray photographs for treatment
purposes; or
(7) administers local dental anesthetics or nitrous oxide, except
for the administration of local dental anesthetics or nitrous oxide
by:
(A) a dentist as provided in IC 25-14-1-23(a)(6); or
(B) a physician licensed under IC 25-22.5.

SECTION 6. IC 25-13-2-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.155-2016, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 6. (a) A dental hygienist must complete at least nineteen (19) credit hours in continuing education courses each license period.
(b) Credit hours may be applied under this section only toward the credit hour requirement for the license period during which the credit hours are earned.
(c) During a license period, a dental hygienist may not earn more than five (5) credit hours toward the requirements under this section for continuing education courses that relate specifically to the area of practice management.
(d) Not more than two (2) credit hours for certification programs in basic life support required under IC 25-13-1-8(c)(3) may be applied toward the credit hour requirement during each license period.
(e) During a license period, at least half of the required minimum credit hours must be earned through live presentations or live workshops.

SECTION 7. IC 25-13-2-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 7. Credit hours under section 6 of this chapter must be awarded as follows:
(1) A course presented by a college under a regular curriculum is awarded one (1) credit hour for each lecture hour attended.
(2) A course not listed in subdivision (1) is awarded one (1) credit hour for each lecture hour and two (2) credit hours for each participation hour of the course.
(3) A speech, lecture, or other presentation by a dental hygienist is awarded two (2) credit hours if the following conditions are met:
   (A) The presentation concerns a subject that would be suitable for a continuing education course.
   (B) The subject of the presentation is eligible for credit only one (1) time, regardless of the number of times the subject is presented.
   (C) The presenting dental hygienist maintains a record of the time, place, and date of the presentation.
   (D) The presentation is sponsored by an approved organization.
   (E) Not more than four (4) credit hours are awarded to the dental hygienist under this subdivision during any license period.
(4) Attendance at a state, regional, or national meeting sponsored by an approved organization is awarded one (1) credit hour.

(5) Attendance at a meeting of a study club that uses films, audio cassettes, live presentations, or written materials sponsored by the American Dental Hygienist Association is awarded one (1) credit hour. However, a dental hygienist may not receive credit under this subdivision for more than four (4) credit hours during a license period.

(6) Attendance at a meeting of a study club featuring a guest speaker whose presentation concerns a subject suitable for a continuing education course is awarded one (1) credit hour for each hour attended.

(7) A home study course that is presented by an approved organization and meets the requirements under this subdivision is awarded the same number of credit hours given to courses provided by a college. If the approved organization does not assess credit hours to a course under this subdivision, the course is awarded one (1) credit hour for each hour of study material. Subject matter of the course may be presented by written, audio, or video materials.

(8) There is no limit on the number of credit hours a dental hygienist may earn if the course is an approved course offered by another dental hygienist.
COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Public Health, to which was referred House Bill 1067, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 4, line 42, after "curriculum" insert ", consisting of pharmacology, biochemistry, anatomy of nitrous oxide administration, and the mechanics of operating a nitrous unit,".

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1067 as introduced.)

KIRCHHOFER

Committee Vote: yeas 13, nays 0.