



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PO Box 47852 · Olympia Washington 98504-7852

DENTAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
Friday, October 22, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT

David Carsten, DDS, Chair
Lyle McClellan, DDS, Vice Chair
Aaron Stevens, DMD
McKinley Rainey, Public Member
Miryam Nossa, EFDA
Karen Clements, DDS
Marlynne Fulton, Public Member
Kathleen Elling, EFDA
Joy McDaniel, DMD
Julia Richman, DDS
Samantha Kofler, DDS
Abhishake Banda, DMD, MD
Sonia Pal, DDS
Tiffany Bass, DDS

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kunal Walia, DDS
Ronald Marsh, DDS

STAFF PRESENT

Jennifer Santiago, Interim Executive
Director
Bruce Bronoske, Jr., Program Manager
Becky McElhiney, Assistant Program
Manager
Bill Kellington, Supervising Staff Attorney
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General
(AAG)

OPEN SESSION

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – David Carsten, DDS, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.
 - 1.1. The commission and staff introduced themselves.
 - 1.2. Mr. Bronoske, Jr. requested to add a request for lists and labels onto agenda item #8. The commission approved the agenda as amended.
 - 1.3. The commission approved the September 10, 2021 Business Meeting Minutes as presented.

2. RULES HEARING

The rules hearing commenced at 8:35 a.m. The commission discussed public comment and the adoption of proposed rules for:

- WAC 246-817-581 Novel coronavirus disease 2019 vaccination filed on August 18, 2021 as WSR 21-18-005.
 - Melissa Johnson with the Washington State Dental Hygienists' Association (WSDHA) shared that WSDHA supports the rule. The permanent rule mirrors the emergency rule allowing delegation to hygienists. WSDHA feels that this is a critical health service.
- WAC 246-817-440 Dentist continuing education (CE) requirements filed on August 26, 2021 as WSR 21-18-073.
 - Lauren Johnson with WSDA expressed that WSDA supports the proposed rules. WSDA feels that live webinars still provide quality education, and the rule change is timely in light of the pandemic.
- WAC 246-817-230 Dentist retired active status filed on August 26, 2021 as WSR 21-18-074.
 - There were no public comments on this proposed rule section.
- The hearing was concluded at 8:45 a.m.
- The commission did not have any additional comments.
- Dr. Stevens moved to adopt all three sections of the proposed rules. Dr. Richman seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed with none opposed or abstained.

3. DENTAL ANESTHESIA COMMITTEE

- 3.1. Dr. Carsten reported to the commission on the committee meeting held September 9, 2021.
 - The committee is finalizing rule modifications. Another meeting will be held on November 18, 2021 to address the remaining items, and the committee will bring the proposed rules to the commission after they are finalized.
- 3.2. The commission received copy of proposed rule modification for WAC 246-817-701 – 790 - Dental Anesthesia.

4. DENTAL INFECTION CONTROL COMMITTEE

- 4.1. Dr. Carsten reported to the commission on the committee meeting held September 24, 2021.
 - The checklist is intended to assist the dental health care investigators, not change the dental infection control rules.
- 4.2. The commission discussed the updated investigator infection control checklist.
 - Dr. Kofler moved to approve the updated checklist. Ms. Fulton seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed with none opposed or abstained.

5. EXPANDED FUNCTION DENTAL AUXILIARY COMMITTEE

- 5.1. Mr. Bronoske, Jr. reported to the commission on the committee meeting held September 29, 2021.

- The committee is gathering information on school program requirements for amalgam restorations.
- 5.2. The commission discussed upcoming expanded function dental auxiliary (EFDA) school reviews.
 - Ms. McElhiney has notified the two schools that are due for renewal in 2022.
- 5.3. The commission discussed potential rule modifications for WAC 246-817-195 Licensure requirements for expanded function dental auxiliaries (EFDAs).
 - The commission will revisit this topic in the future after a determination is made regarding amalgam restoration requirements.

6. DENTAL COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

- 6.1. Dr. McClellan reported to the commission on the committee meeting held September 30, 2021.
 - The committee received many public comments prior to the meeting and discussed them at the meeting.
- 6.2. The commission discussed implant pre-fabricated locator attachments.
 - The committee is working on a rule modification to clarify the definition of “removeable”.
- 6.3. The commission discussed treatment of sleep apnea.
 - The committee agrees that sleep apnea is a medical issue. Dentists who treat sleep apnea should take a residency on sleep dentistry. Sleep apnea should be diagnosed by a physician, and the physician should order the tests. Dental providers and the patient’s physician should take a collaborative approach to treatment and monitoring.

7. EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- 7.1. Dr. Stevens reported to the commission on the committee meeting held October 7, 2021.
 - The committee discussed infection control training, and agreed that many dental schools lack sufficient instruction on appropriate infection control practices. Dental assistants tend to have more knowledge on infection control. Dr. Stevens is working with his dental assistants to gather information.
- 7.2. The commission received an update on the November newsletter.
- 7.3. The commission discussed licensure display.
 - The committee determined that keeping a license in a binder does not meet the requirement, because the rule requires licenses to be “conspicuously displayed”. The committee is not specifying where a license must be displayed, just that it must be clearly visible.
 - Dr. Carsten asked about mobile dentists and how they would meet the requirement.
 - Dr. Stevens suggested mounting it on the outside of a briefcase or another item that would be clearly visible.
 - Dr. McDaniel inquired about dentists in correctional facilities.

- Dr. Carsten stated that there were likely several exceptions to consider.
 - The committee will continue discussions on this topic.
- 7.4. The commission discussed investigator infection control training.
- The committee discussed options for infection control training for dental investigators. One option discussed was the Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention (OSAP) course, which may be above and beyond the rule requirements of Washington State. Another option discussed was contracting with Harrisbiomedical for a custom training. Ms. Santiago has been discussing the possibility of a custom training with Terre Harris, owner of Harrisbiomedical.
 - Dr. Carsten stated that OSAP considers Washington State rules a model for dental infection rules in the US.
 - Dr. Bass shared her opinion that OSAP is ahead of Washington in regard to infection control standard development, not necessarily contradictory to Washington's dental infection control rules.
 - The committee will continue to gather information for training options and recommend steps forward at a future commission meeting.
- 7.5. The commission Discussed the October 21, 2021 Commission Training Retreat.
- The commission went through the steps on a mock case to illustrate the disciplinary process.

8. OTHER

- 8.1. The commission discussed the prescription monitoring program – electronic health record integration mandate.
- Ms. Santiago shared that the mandate goes into effect January 1, 2022. The program has filed a CR103 for an exception waiver. The waiver form is not available on the website yet, but will be before the rule is in effect. The mandate applies to practices of 10 or more providers.
- 8.2. The commission discussed the electronic prescribing mandate.
- The mandate applies to all health professionals that prescribe controlled substances. There are some possible exemptions, but none that apply specifically to dentistry. The Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission and the Department filed a CR103 for an exception waiver. Providers can an apply for exceptions. One exception that may apply to dentists related to providers who prescribe less than 100 controlled substance prescriptions (including new prescriptions and refills) in a one-year period.
 - Dr. Kofler asked for clarification regarding the 100-prescription limit and how it applies to group practices.
 - Ms. Santiago shared that she believes it applies to individual providers, but she will do some research and get back to the commission.
 - Dr. Kofler expressed concerns that in her rural area there are two pharmacies, and one has stated they will not accept electronic prescriptions.
 - Dr. Carsten inquired whether pharmacies could legally decline to accept electronic prescriptions.

- Ms. Santiago will do some research and get back to the commission.
- 8.3. The commission received information on the State Auditor’s Office (SAO) Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) audit.
- The SAO is auditing the PMP. During the audit, the SAO decided to expand to the boards and commissions with prescribing authority. The SAO is evaluating the effectiveness of the PMP and has been meeting with board and commission leaders. There will be more to come on this topic.
- 8.4. The commission received information related to a legal suit against the Oregon Board of Dentistry related to specialty representation.
- Ms. Carter shared that the Oregon Board’s specialty representation statute is similar to Washington. Washington has a specific rule that allows dentists to represent that they are a member of an association, organization or society. There is nothing for the commission to do at this time, Ms. Carter is monitoring the situation.
 - Mr. Kellington shared that there may be more information shared at the American Association of Dental Boards attorney round table conference at the end of the month.
- 8.5. The commission discussed Engrossed Senate Substitute Bill 5229 Health Equity Continuing Education secretary CR101 filed on September 23, 2021 as WSR 21-20-011.
- Ms. Santiago shared that health equity CE legislation recently passed, and it applies to all healthcare professionals. The Secretary of Health will take the lead on developing rules. Eventually, the commission will need to develop its own rules and could copy or refer to the Secretary’s rules.
- 8.6. The commission received a copy of an appreciation letter sent to Kim Dinsmore-Underberg.
- Mr. Bronoske, Jr. shared that Ms. Dinsmore-Underberg retired as compliance officer, and the commission sent a letter thanking her for her service to the commission. The new compliance officer assigned to the commission is Scott Gadman.
- 8.7. The commission discussed a request to receive lists and labels as an educational organization from Concord Dental and Medical Seminars.
- The organization offers CE seminars for dentists and hygienists and has been previously approved by the commission.
 - Dr. Stevens moved to approve the organization to receive lists and labels. Dr. Pal seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed with none opposed or abstained.

9. PROGRAM REPORT – Becky McElhiney, Bruce Bronoske, Jr., and Jennifer Santiago.

- 9.1. The commission received the interim operating budget report.
- Ms. Santiago shared that numbers for the end of the fiscal year in June were finalized recently. The commission is spending appropriately and there is

nothing of concern at this time. The 2022-2023 budget allocation should be available at the December 10, 2021 business meeting.

- 9.2. The commission received a list of active committees.
- 9.3. The commission received a summary of rules in progress.

10. REGIONAL/NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- 10.1. Dr. Pal reported to the commission on the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) site visit of Providence St. Peter Hospital general practice residency review on September 3, 2021.
 - Ms. Pal observed accreditation for new residency program. It was a meticulous process.

11. ADJOURN

The commission adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

Submitted By:

Commission Approval By:

Signature on file

Bruce Bronoske, Jr., Program Manager

Signature on file

David Carsten, DDS, Chairperson