



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO Box 47852 · Olympia Washington 98504-7852

### DENTAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION DENTAL THERAPY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Monday, April 8, 2024

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Miryam Nossa, EFDA  
Mac Rainey, Public Member  
David Carsten, DDS

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Tiffany Bass, DDS  
Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair  
Sarah Khan, DDS  
Samantha Kofler, DDS

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Trina Crawford, Executive Director  
Debbie Gardner, Program Manager  
Bruce Bronoske Jr., Program Manager  
Adriana Barcena, Program Manager  
Sherri Stratton, Assistant Program Manager  
Heather Carter, AAG  
Mikala Lord, Policy Analyst

#### **OPEN SESSION**

#### **OPEN SESSION - 12:11 p.m.**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Dr. David Carsten, DDS – Dental Quality Assurance Commission Chair
  - 1.1. Introduction of committee members and staff
    - Mr. Bronoske, Jr. introduces committee members and staff.
  - 1.2. Approval of agenda.
    - Mr. Bronoske, Jr. requests an amendment to remove item 1.3 Approval of March 5, 2024 meeting minutes from the agenda.
    - There is a motion to approve the agenda as amended.
    - The motion is moved and seconded.
  
- 2. DENTAL THERAPY WORKSHOP** – The committee and department work on draft rules for dental therapy.

- Mr. Bronoske, Jr. shares a comparison of active practice hour requirements for dental therapists in Oregon, Idaho, and Minnesota.
- The committee decides no adjustments are needed to the “Active Practice” definition drafted during the last workshop.
- Mr. Bronoske, Jr. shares “Limited Conditions” draft language.
- Sami Bailey, representing Washington Association for Community Health, explains many of their patients fall into the ASA II and ASA III categories and that concern is meant to be addressed within the practice plan contract with the supervising dentist.
- Dr. Rachael Hogan, supervising dentist at Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, agrees the definition of limited conditions should refer to the practice plan contract for ASA patient classification. She expresses concern that most extractions will be excluded by including a specific percentage of bone loss in the definition.
- Dr. Edgar agrees 95% bone loss is too restrictive.
- Dr. Pal suggests mobility as a way of assessing non-surgical extractions rather than a percentage of bone loss.
- Dr. Prato asks if the scope of practice includes placing sutures in emergency situations.
- Sami Bailey comments it is unnecessary to include non-surgical extractions in the definition of limited conditions. She states supervising dentists know the range of the dental therapist’s skills and should address emergency plan procedures within the practice plan contract.
- Dr. Rachael Hogan agrees, and states dental therapists should receive approval from the supervising dentist prior to a procedure to ensure it is within their scope. She clarifies that suture placement is not included in the dental therapist’s scope of practice.
- Bracken Killpack suggests the requirement of obtaining the supervising dentist’s approval prior to a procedure be included in the language.
- Dr. Carsten suggests the committee evaluate the requirements of the practice plan contract.
- Dr. Hogan volunteers to send an example of a practice plan contract to the committee.
- Mr. Bronoske, Jr. shares that the Health Care Authority will send their dental therapy license requirements for the committee’s review at a future meeting.
- The committee discusses dental therapy licensure pathways from other states and countries.

### **3. CORRESPONDENCE**

- No correspondence received at this time.

### **4. FUTURE BUSINESS**

- The committee will meet again on May 2, 2024.

### **5. ADJOURN**

- The meeting is adjourned at 12:51PM.

**Submitted by:**

Bruce Bronoske Jr., Program Manager  
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

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Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Approved by:**

David Carsten, DDS, Chairperson  
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

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Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date