

## Chapter DE 7

### CERTIFICATION OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS TO ADMINISTER LOCAL ANESTHESIA

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**DE 7.01 Authority.** The rules in this chapter are adopted pursuant to ss. 15.08 (5) (b), 227.11 (2) and 447.02 (2) (e), Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1999, No. 526, eff. 11-1-99.

**DE 7.02 Definitions.** As used in this chapter “accredited” has the meaning under s. 447.01 (1), Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1999, No. 526, eff. 11-1-99.

**DE 7.03 Qualifications for certification of licensed dental hygienists to administer local anesthesia.** An applicant for certification to administer local anesthesia shall be granted a certificate by the board if the applicant complies with all of the following:

(1) Has a current license to practice as a dental hygienist in this state.

(2) Provide evidence of current qualification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation from a course provider approved by the Wisconsin department of health services.

(3) Has completed the educational requirements of s. DE 7.05.

(4) Has submitted the information required in the application under s. DE 7.04.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1999, No. 526, eff. 11-1-99; CR 11-035: am. (2) Register July 2012 No. 679, eff. 8-1-12.

**DE 7.04 Application procedure.** An applicant for a certificate to administer local anesthesia shall file a completed application on a form provided by the board. The application shall include all of the following:

(1) The dental hygienist license number in this state and the signature of the applicant.

(2) Evidence of current qualification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation from either the American heart association or the American red cross.

(3) Evidence of successful completion of a didactic and clinical program sponsored by an accredited dental or dental hygiene program, resulting in the dental hygienist becoming competent to administer local anesthesia under the delegation and supervision of a dentist, the curriculum of which meets or exceeds the basic course requirements set forth in s. DE 7.05. For those dental hygienists who are employed and taking a local anesthesia program as continuing education outside of the initial accredited dental hygiene program, the administration of local anesthesia on a non-classmate may be performed at the place where the dental hygienist is employed. In those instances the application:

(a) Shall contain a statement from the employing dentist that he or she supervised and verifies the successful completion of an inferior alveolar injection on a patient who was informed of the situation and granted his or her consent to the dentist, and that the dentist assumed liability for the injection performed on the patient.

(b) Shall indicate that the inferior alveolar injection was completed within 6 weeks from the time that the licensed dental hygienist completed the coursework; or, if licensed by endorsement of a dental hygienist license from another state, within 6 weeks of becoming licensed as a dental hygienist in this state.

**Note:** Instructions for applications are available on the department’s website at <http://dsps.wi.gov>.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1999, No. 526, eff. 11-1-99.

**DE 7.05 Educational requirements.** The following educational requirements are necessary for the board to approve and grant certification to a licensed dental hygienist in the administration of local anesthesia:

(1) The course in the administration of local anesthesia shall be provided by an accredited dental or dental hygiene school.

(2) To participate in a course in the administration of local anesthesia, a person shall do all of the following:

(a) Show evidence of current qualification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation from a course provider approved by the Wisconsin department of health services.

(b) Provide proof of possessing a license to practice as a dental hygienist in this state, or having graduated from an accredited dental hygiene program, or of being enrolled in an accredited dental hygiene program.

(3) The local anesthesia course shall have the following components and provide a minimum of 21 hours of instruction:

(a) Didactic instruction. Minimum of 10 hours, including but not limited to the following topics:

1. Provide proof of possessing a license to practice as a dental hygienist in this state, or having graduated from an accredited dental hygiene program, or of being enrolled in an accredited dental hygiene program.

2. Basic pharmacology and drug interactions.

3. Chemistry, pharmacology and clinical properties of local anesthesia, vasoconstrictors, and topical anesthesia.

4. Anatomical considerations for the administration of anesthesia.

5. Patient assessment for the administration of anesthesia.

6. Selection and preparation of armamentarium.

7. Recognition, management and emergency response to local complications.

8. Recognition, management and emergency response to systemic complications.

9. Ethical and legal considerations.

10. Techniques for regional anesthesia.

(b) Experience in the clinical administration of local anesthesia. Minimum of 11 hours in the following techniques:

1. Maxillary.

a. Posterior superior alveolar.

- b. Middle superior alveolar.
- c. Anterior superior alveolar.
- d. Greater/lesser palatine.
- e. Nasopalatine.
- f. Supraperiosteal (infiltration) injection.
- 2. Mandibular.
  - a. Inferior alveolar/lingual.
  - b. Mental/incisive nerve block.
  - c. Buccal nerve.
  - d. Periodontal ligament injection.
  - e. Intraseptal injection.

(c) Students performing injections as part of the clinical coursework shall successfully perform all local anesthesia injections on their classmates as well as perform at least one successful inferior alveolar injection on a non-classmate patient. For those licensed dental hygienists who are completing this course in the continuing education environment, the injection on a non-classmate patient may be performed in the office where the dental hygienist is employed, as long as the employer-dentist agrees to supervise and submit verification of the successful completion of the injection.

(d) A dentist licensed under ch. 447, Stats., shall be present in the facility and available to both the patients and to the students of the class.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1999, No. 526, eff. 11-1-99; CR 11-035: am. (2) (a) Register July 2012 No. 679, eff. 8-1-12.

**DE 7.06 Dentist responsibility for the administration of local anesthetic.** The dentist is ultimately responsible for all decisions regarding the administration of local anesthetic, particularly in determining the pharmacological and physiological considerations of each individual treatment plan.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1999, No. 526, eff. 11-1-99; **EmR2410: emerg. cr. (1) to (4), eff. 7-26-24.**

**DE 7.07 Dental therapist delegation to a dental hy-**

**gienist the administration of local anesthetic. (1)** In this section, “supervising dentist” has the meaning given in s. DE 17.01 (6).

**(2)** Pursuant to the requirements under ss. 447.06 (2) (e) and 447.065 (2), Stats., a dental therapist may delegate to a dental hygienist the administration of local anesthetic only if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The administration is performed pursuant to a treatment plan for the patient approved by a dentist.

(b) The dentist remains on the premises in which the administration is performed and is available to the patient throughout the completion of the appointment.

(c) The dental therapist has the authority to perform the activity personally, pursuant to the requirements under s. 447.06 (3) (bm) 1. and 2., Stats.

(d) The dental therapist remains under the supervision of the supervising dentist for the duration of the procedure. The dental therapist’s level of supervision shall be the level agreed upon for the procedure, as specified in the dental therapist’s collaborative management agreement described in s. DE 17.03 (5).

(e) The supervising dentist has allowed the dental therapist to administer local anesthetic within the dental therapist’s collaborative management agreement, pursuant to the requirements under s. 447.06 (3) (d) 1., Stats.

(f) The supervising dentist has expressly allowed the dental therapist to delegate the administration of local anesthetic within the dental therapist’s collaborative management agreement, pursuant to the requirements under s. 447.06 (3) (d) 1., Stats.

**(3)** In sub. (2), the dentist who approves the treatment plan and remains available to the patient may be a different dentist than the supervising dentist for the dental therapist.

**(4)** The dental therapist, the dental therapist’s supervising dentist, and the dentist who approves the treatment plan shall be responsible for any services, treatments, or procedures delegated and performed under sub. (2).

**History:** CR 24-094: cr. Register July 2025 No.835, eff. 8-1-25.