



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO Box 47852 · Olympia Washington 98504-7852

DENTAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION DENTAL THERAPY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Tuesday September 17, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chair
Mac Rainey, Public Member
Sonia Pal, DMD
Sarah Khan, DDS
Miryam Nossa, EFDA
Tiffany Bass, DDS

MEMBERS ABSENT

Samantha Kofler, DDS

STAFF PRESENT

Bruce Bronoske Jr., Dental Program
Administrator
Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Kitty Einert, Program Manager
Adriana Barcena, Program Manager
Mikala Lord, Policy Analyst
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General
Sarah Rountry, Health Services Consultant 1
Cassandra Gerard, Administrative Assistant

OPEN SESSION - 12:05 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER – Sonia Pal, DMD,

1.1. Introduction of committee members and staff

- Ms. Einert introduces committee members and staff.

1.2. Approval of agenda

- There is a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
- The motion was moved and seconded.

1.3. Approval of July 30, 2024 meeting minutes

- There was a motion to approve the July 30, 2024 meeting minutes.
- The motion was moved and seconded.

2. APPROVED NITROUS OXIDE CLASSES – The department provides a list of current approved Dental Hygiene nitrous oxide courses.

- Ms. Einert shares the current Dental Hygiene Expanded Functions Education Information which includes nitrous oxide coursework.
- Ms. Einert suggests the committee approve courses that have been vetted by the Dental Hygiene Examining Committee which can also be applied to dental therapist licensure. The list of approved courses will be made available on the dental therapy webpage for candidates seeking licensure.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. suggests the department contact the dental hygiene schools listed on the Dental Hygiene Expanded Function Education Information to confirm they accept dental therapy students.
- The committee discusses and agrees on providing applicants a list of approved courses.
- Ms. Einert will draft a list of schools that provide dental therapist education and present to the committee at a future meeting.

3. EDUCATION VERIFICATION FORM – The committee and department work on the Dental Therapy Education Verification Form.

- Ms. Einert shares the Dental Hygiene Education Verification form included in the dental hygienist license application. She suggests a similar form be used in the dental therapy license application.
- The committee discusses the differences in education verification requirements for dental hygienist and dentist licenses.
- The committee discusses what portions of the form need to be revised to suit dental therapy applicants and when the form will be required for licensure.
- Ms. Einert will draft a Dental Therapy Education Verification Form for the committee to review at a future meeting.

4. PRACTICE PLAN AGREEMENT – The committee and department work on developing a Dental Therapy Practice Plan Agreement.

- Ms. Einert shares examples of practice plan agreements from the Medical Commission and from a different state.
- Mr. Bronoske Jr. suggests organizations may use their own practice plan agreement as long as it includes the RCW requirements.
- The committee discusses the standard and monitoring of practice plan agreements.
- Ms. Johnson representing the Washington State Dental Association asks what mechanism the state will use to ensure the RCW and dental therapy rules are being followed to protect patient safety.

- The committee discusses the level of supervision for each provision and procedure be included within the practice plan agreement.
- Ms. Einert will draft a dental therapy practice plan agreement for the committee to review at a future meeting.

5. DENTAL THERAPY RULES – The committee and department work on draft rules for Dental Therapy.

- Ms. Einert reviews the addition of nondiscrimination, representation of care, fees, and records, patient abandonment, sexual misconduct definitions, and sexual misconduct sections to the rules.
- There was a motion to approve the changes and additions made at the June 11 and September 17, 2024 meetings.
- The motion was moved and seconded.
- Ms. Einert shares the rule sections that are still in progress.
- Ms. Johnson comments the dental health aid therapist licensure and dental therapy limited license sections have similar requirements and may not have to be separated.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- No correspondence received at this time.

7. FUTURE BUSINESS

- The committee discusses potential 2025 meeting dates. Ms. Einert requests the committee approve 2025 meeting dates for the first half of 2025. The 2nd Tuesday of each month at noon was approved on a trial basis.

8. ADJOURN

- The meeting is adjourned at 12:45PM.

Submitted by:

Kitty Einert, Program Manager
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

Approved by:

Bryan Swanson, DDS, Chairperson
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

Signature

Signature

Date

Date