



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

WASHINGTON DENTAL COMMISSION
DENTAL THERAPY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES
December 2, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sonia Pal, DMD
Mac Rainey, Public Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Miryam Nossa, EFDA
Bryan Swanson, DDS
Sarah Khan, DDS
Samantha Kofler, DDS
Tiffany Bass, DDS

STAFF PRESENT

Trina Crawford, Executive Director
Bruce Bronoske Jr., Dental Program
Administrator
Kitty Einert, Program Manager
Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Lady Bah, Assistant Program Manager
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General
Mikala Lord, Policy Analyst
Sarah Miczynski, Health Services Consultant
Sarah Rounry, Health Services Consultant

OPEN SESSION

Due to quorum not being met, this meeting was informal. No decisions were made, only informal discussions.

OPEN SESSION - 1:01 PM

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Sonia Pal, DMD Vice-Chair
 - 1.1. Introduction of committee members and staff.
 - Ms. Einert introduces committee members and staff.
 - 1.2. Approval of agenda.
 - No vote was taken.
 - 1.3. Approval of November 13, 2024, committee meeting minutes.
 - No vote was taken.

- 2. DENTAL THERAPY CLINICAL EXAM REVIEW** – The committee discussed components/procedures and whether the exams meet licensure requirements.
 - Ms. Einert shares the components from Central Regional Dental Testing Service and CDCA/WREB/CITA exams.

- The committee discusses the exam components for the Commission's approval at the December 6, 2024 business meeting.
- Dr. Pal suggests both written and clinical local anesthesia exams should be required for licensure.
- Ms. Chagnon comments that requiring both the written and clinical local anesthesia exams may not be necessary due to the hands-on practice received within the training program.
- Ms. Flaig representing the Washington State Dental Association supports the requirement of both the written and clinical local anesthesia exams. The exams will provide a good opportunity to test students' competency.
- Dr. Warren suggests it may be important to clarify the dental therapy CODA accreditation standards differ from other dental programs. The training programs are required to have competency in every element of their scope which may lead to redundancy with exam requirements.
- The committee discusses the differences in exam requirements from other states.
- Dr. Hogan suggests moving away from patient-based exams. She discourages an overly burdensome or lengthy exam.
- The Commission will make the final determination of exam requirements at the next business meeting.

3. DENTAL THERAPY RULES – the committee and department continue working on draft rules for Dental Therapy.

- Ms. Einert shares the changes that were discussed at the past meeting.
- The committee discusses adding healthcare to the description of professional licensure requirements.
- Ms. Einert suggests reviewing the patient record content to ensure that it applies to the scope of practice for dental therapists.
- Ms. Einert and Mr. Bronoske Jr. review the timeline for the implementation of the rules and suggest a deadline for receiving comments.
- Ms. Flaig asks for clarification of the definition of limited conditions for non-surgical extractions.
- Dr. Hogan suggests supervision requirements should be included in the practice plan agreement.
- Mr. Killpack suggests using the terms close and general supervision which are typically understood in the dental practice environment.
- Mr. Narvaez comments the level of supervision should be determined by the dentist within the practice agreement.
- Mr. Killpack comments that extractions should have some sort of approval and consultation from the supervising dentist.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

- No correspondence received at this time.

5. FUTURE BUSINESS

- The committee will continue working on the practice plan contract and dental therapy

rules.

- Staff will clarify the supervision requirement limits in the practice plan agreement.

6. ADJOURN

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 PM.

Submitted by:

Kitty Einert, Program Manager
Washington Dental Commission

Approved by:

Sonia Pal, DMD, Vice Chair
Washington Dental Commission

Signature

Signature

Date

Date

DRAFT