



STATE OF WASHINGTON

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

PO Box 47852 · Olympia Washington 98504-7852

**DENTAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION  
DENTAL COLLABORATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, August 14, 2023**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Sonia Pal, DMD, Chairperson  
Josh Brooks, Denturist  
Mac Rainey, Public Member  
Nisha Sharoff, DDS  
Charlene Meagher, RDH

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**STAFF PRESENT**

Trina Crawford, Executive Director  
Amber Freeberg, Program Manager  
Adriana Barcena, Assistant Program  
Manager  
Vicki Brown, Program Manager  
Bruce Bronoske, Jr., Program Manager  
Sierra McWilliams, Assistant Attorney  
General  
Micah Matthews, Washington State Medical  
Commission

**OPEN SESSION**

**OPEN SESSION - 1:00 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER - Dr. Sonia Pal, Committee Chairperson**

1.1. Introduction of attendees.

- Ms. Freeberg introduces all present committee members and staff.

1.2. Approval of agenda.

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

1.3. The committee will review for approval June 6, 2023, meeting minutes.

- There is a motion to approve the June 16, 2023, meeting minutes.
- The motion is moved and seconded.

**2. VACCINATIONS** The committee will discuss dentists providing vaccinations.

2.1. Review of questions from Washington Medical Commission.

- Dr. Pal presents the Washington Medical Commission's (WMC) preliminary vaccine questions that would be reported back to WMC.

- The committee has no further discussion on the preliminary questions reviewed in previous committee meetings.
- 2.2. Information regarding Washington State Immunization Information System (IIS).
- Ms. Freeberg reports the Washington Immunization Information System is overseen by the Department of Health. IIS currently has 20 dental organization registered.
  - IIS registers organization and businesses, not individual dental providers.
  - Ms. Freeberg provides information on exchanging data with the Department via One Port from IIS.
  - Mr. Rainey shares the challenges of dental providers providing vaccines is not related to the providers clinical competency but instead the clinic's logistics and navigating reimbursement challenges.
- 2.3. Discussion of pros and cons of opening rules or developing an interpretive statement.
- Ms. McWilliams provides an overview of an interpretive statement and opening rules.
  - Ms. Freeberg reminds the committee they have been discussing the topic of dental providers expanding vaccinations after the Commission received a letter asking them to address this topic, and to determine whether rules or interpretative statements should be created.
  - Dr. Gressell expresses if vaccines are not in response to emergencies or assisting with state shortages, vaccines should be left to the discretion of families and primary care providers.
  - Dr. Pal is in support of Dr. Gressell's explanation.
  - Mr. Matthews shares feedback received from Dr. April Jaeger with the Medical Commission who is a Pediatric Emergency Physician. Ms. Jaeger is supportive of more vaccines occurring in the general concept of increasing the population of vaccinated individuals.
  - Mr. Matthews shares the main source of preliminary questions include the consideration of storage, disposal, reporting of adverse effects.
  - Mr. Matthews provides possible legislation that may include standing orders and possible one port vendor transitions. This would affect systems of vaccine systems and structure.
  - Mr. Matthews also shares the Dental Commission may want to consult with the Office of Insurance Commissioner as there are vaccines such as Shingles which cost is only covered if it is administered by a pharmacist and this may lead to patient conflict. Additionally, consideration of how the Commission will handle misinformation for those within the dental profession.
  - There is discussion of pediatric dentistry and vaccines.
  - Ms. McWilliam shares an interpretive statement can be situation specific and not individual specific.
  - Ms. Freeberg confirms there have been no inquiries related to the topic.
  - There is a motion to provide the Commission with the recommendation to not move forward with forming an interpretive statement or opening rules as it relates to dental providers and vaccinations.
  - The motion is moved and seconded.
  - Vote unanimously passes.

### 3. FUTURE BUSINESS

Determine information needed for the next committee meeting.

- Ms. Freeberg shares the Commission has not assigned any additional assignments to the committee.
- The committee confirms there is no future business.

### 4. ADJOURN

- The committee is adjourned at 1:33p.m

**Submitted by:**

Amber Freeberg, Program Manager  
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

**Approved by:**

Sonia Pal, DMD  
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

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Signature

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Date