

1 AN ACT concerning dental hygienists.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Dental Practice Act is amended  
5 by changing Section 18 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 25/18) (from Ch. 111, par. 2318)

7 Sec. 18. Acts constituting the practice of dental  
8 hygiene; limitations.

9 (1) A dental hygienist may be employed or engaged only:

10 (a) Under the supervision of a dentist; ~~(1) in the~~  
11 office of a dentist;

12 ~~(2) By a federal, State, county or municipal agency~~  
13 ~~or institution;~~

14 ~~(3) By a public or private school; or~~

15 ~~(4) By a public clinic operating under the~~  
16 ~~direction of a hospital or federal, State, county,~~  
17 ~~municipal or other public agency or institution.~~

18 ~~When employed or engaged pursuant to this paragraph (a) a~~  
19 ~~dental hygienist may perform the following procedures and~~  
20 ~~acts:~~

21 ~~(i) the operative procedure of dental hygiene,~~  
22 ~~consisting of oral prophylactic procedures;~~

23 ~~(ii) the exposure and processing of X-Ray~~  
24 ~~films of the teeth and surrounding structures;~~

25 ~~(iii) the application to the surfaces of the~~  
26 ~~teeth or gums of chemical compounds designed to be~~  
27 ~~desensitizing agents or effective agents in the~~  
28 ~~prevention of dental caries or periodontal disease;~~

29 ~~(iv) all services which may be performed by a~~  
30 ~~dental assistant as specified by rule pursuant to~~  
31 ~~Section 17;~~

1           ~~(v) administration and monitoring of nitrous~~  
 2           ~~oxide upon successful completion of a training~~  
 3           ~~program approved by the Department;~~

4           ~~(vi) administration of local anesthetics upon~~  
 5           ~~successful completion of a training program approved~~  
 6           ~~by the Department; and~~

7           ~~(vii) such other procedures and acts as shall~~  
 8           ~~be prescribed by rule or regulation of the~~  
 9           ~~Department.~~

10           (b) Under the general supervision of a dentist (i)  
 11           in a long-term care facility licensed by the State of  
 12           Illinois, (ii) in or a mental health or developmental  
 13           disability facility operated by the Department of Human  
 14           Services, (iii) in a public or private school, (iv) in a  
 15           hospital, (v) in a prison, (vi) in a community health  
 16           center or clinic, (vii) in a mobile unit, or (viii) in a  
 17           home health setting if the patient is unable to travel to  
 18           a dental office because of illness or infirmity. The  
 19           ~~dentist shall personally examine and diagnose the patient~~  
 20           ~~and determine which services are necessary to be~~  
 21           ~~performed, which shall be contained in a written order to~~  
 22           ~~the hygienist. Such order must be implemented within 90~~  
 23           ~~days of its issuance, and~~ An updated medical history and  
 24           oral inspection must be performed by the hygienist  
 25           immediately prior to beginning the procedures to ensure  
 26           ~~that the patient's health has not changed in any manner~~  
 27           ~~to warrant a reexamination by the dentist. The~~  
 28           authorizing dentist shall be responsible for providing  
 29           the dental examination in a reasonable and suitable time  
 30           frame to ensure the patient's overall oral health.

31           (2)(e) Without the supervision of a dentist, a dental  
 32           hygienist may perform dental health education functions and  
 33           may record case histories and oral conditions observed.

34           (3) The number of dental hygienists practicing in a

1 dental office shall not exceed, at any one time, 4 times the  
2 number of dentists practicing in the office at the time.

3 (4) When employed or engaged pursuant to paragraph (a)  
4 or (b) of subsection (1) of this Section, a dental hygienist  
5 may perform the following procedures and acts:

6 (a) the operative procedure of dental hygiene,  
7 consisting of oral prophylactic procedures;

8 (b) the exposure and processing of X-Ray films of  
9 the teeth and surrounding structures;

10 (c) the application to the surfaces of the teeth or  
11 gums of chemical compounds designed to be desensitizing  
12 agents or effective agents in the prevention of dental  
13 caries or periodontal disease;

14 (d) all services which may be performed by a dental  
15 assistant as specified by rule pursuant to Section 17;  
16 and

17 (e) such other procedures and acts as shall be  
18 prescribed by rule or regulation of the Department.

19 (5) A dental hygienist may only perform the following  
20 procedures and acts upon successful completion of a training  
21 program approved by the Department under the supervision of a  
22 dentist:

23 (a) administration and monitoring of nitrous oxide;  
24 and

25 (b) administration of local anesthetics.

26 (Source: P.A. 91-594, eff. 1-1-00; 91-689, eff. 1-1-01.)