

From time to time, the OBD receives questions regarding Oregon licensed Dental Hygienists and Expanded Practice Permits. The information was compiled from a board updates presentation as a resource to answer questions about it. The information is condensed and the statutes provide the full details of course. The Oregon Legislature defined the scope and requirements of the permit holder in ORS 680.200, 680.205 & 680.213. Please contact OBD Executive Director, Stephen Prisby stephen.prisby@obd.oregon.gov if you have any questions.

DH – EXPANDED PRACTICE PERMIT

(FORMERLY KNOWN AS A LIMITED ACCESS PERMIT)

History:

- Expanded Practice Permit has been available to licensed dental hygienists in Oregon for two decades.
- Legislation passed in 1997 intended to expand access to dental hygiene services to populations that are historically underserved.

DH - EXPANDED PRACTICE PERMIT

Historically Underserved Populations: "Patients or residents of the following facilities or programs who, due to age, infirmity or disability, are unable to receive regular dental hygiene treatment."

- Nursing homes
- Adult foster homes
- Residential Care facilities
- Adult congregate living facilities
- Mental Health residential programs administered by the OHA
- Facilities for persons with mental illness
- Homebound adults
- Facilities for persons with developmental disabilities
- Local correctional facilities and juvenile detention facilities, regional correctional facilities, youth care centers, and the Department of Corrections
- Public and nonprofit community health clinics

DH - EXPANDED PRACTICE PERMIT

What does the Expanded Practice Permit allow a hygienist to do?

- ✓ Practice dental hygiene without the supervision of a dentist, **only** on the populations described in ORS 680.205 in the Dental Practice Act.
- ✓ Examples:
 - ✓ Staffing a community health clinic without a supervising dentist.
 - ✓ Mobile dental hygiene services.
 - ✓ Other examples?

DH - EXPANDED PRACTICE PERMIT – COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT

What is a Collaborative Agreement?

- An approved agreement between a licensed dentist and a licensed EPDH, which allows the EPDH to perform some or all of the following procedures while working under their EPP:
 - ✓ Administer local anesthesia (provided EPDH has the appropriate endorsement).
 - ✓ Place temporary restorations without excavation
 - ✓ Prescribe prophylactic antibiotics and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medications.
 - ✓ Perform Interim Therapeutic Restorations after diagnosis by a dentist.

DH - EXPANDED PRACTICE PERMIT – COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT

What is a Collaborative Agreement? (Continued)

- A Collaborative Agreement is optional – it is not required to obtain/maintain an EPP.
- It remains in effect until revoked in writing by either party.
- An EPDH may have more than one Collaborative Agreement in effect.

DH - EXPANDED PRACTICE PERMIT – COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT

How to obtain a Collaborative Agreement:

- The Collaborative Agreement itself is not a document that is provided by the OBD.
- Should be drafted and signed by the dentist and the EPDH together.
- Should contain agreed-upon referral parameters.
- Should state if/how the various duties covered by the Collaborative Agreement are to be performed.
- Verification of Collaborative Agreement (also signed by both parties) should be attached to the Collaborative Agreement.

DH - EXPANDED PRACTICE PERMIT

What does the Expanded Practice Permit **NOT** allow a hygienist to do?

- + **Extra duties in a dental clinic staffed by a dentist.** *This is not what is meant by "Expanded Practice".*
- + **Practice dental hygiene when supervising dentist is not in the clinic.** *A hygienist practices under general supervision, meaning the dentist does not need to be in the office, but needs to authorize the procedure! No EPP is required to practice dental hygiene when the supervising dentist is out of the office.*
- + **Administer nitrous oxide when a supervising dentist is not in the clinic.** *This is expressly prohibited by the Dental Practice Act, whether or not the hygienist has an EPP.*
- + **Administer local anesthesia.** *Collaborative Agreement required.*
- + **Perform restorative functions.** *Collaborative Agreement required.*