GOVERNMENT NOTICE
GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWING

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DEPARTEMENT VAN GESONDHEID

No. R. 396 **21 May 2012**

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 1974 (ACT 56 OF 1974)

REGULATIONS DEFINING THE SCOPE OF THE PROFESSION OF DENTAL ASSISTANTS

The Minister of Health has, in terms of section 33 (1) of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No 56 of 1974), and on the recommendation of the Health Professions Council of South Africa, made the regulations in the Schedule

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In these regulations the "Act" means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act 56 of 1974), and any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear that meaning, unless the context otherwise dictates -

"**board**" means the Professional Board for Dental Therapy and Oral Hygiene established in terms of section 15 (1) of the Act ;

"dental assistant" means the person registered as such in terms of the Act; and

"oral health practitioner" means an oral hygienist and include a dentist, dental specialist or dental therapist.

Scope of the profession

2. The following acts are hereby specified as acts which shall, for the purposes of the application of the Act, be deemed to be acts pertaining to the profession of dental assistants:

(1) preparing and managing the dental clinical environment before, during and after patient care;

(2) sterilising instruments, and disinfecting surfaces and equipment in the dental environment;

(3) monitoring infection control, sterilisation processes, biological, medical and / or bio hazardous waste management within the dental environment;

(4) preparing dental materials and instruments (including dental hand pieces) for use in clinical procedures performed by the oral health practitioner;

(5) assisting with the patient's needs and comfort during dental treatment;

(6) providing clinical assistance using four handed dentistry which includes instrument transfer, high speed suctioning and debridement techniques in procedures that are performed by an oral health practitioner;

(7) recording patient data gathered during patient interview, oral assessment of the hard and soft tissues and oral assessment of other oral structures and during the treatment of the patient;

(8) processing dental radiographs;

(9) caring for and maintaining equipment used in the dental clinical environment; and

(10) assisting the oral health practitioner in the event of a medical emergency in the dental environment and applying the necessary measures during clinical emergencies.

Performance of professional acts by a student in dental assisting

3. A student in dental assisting shall perform acts pertaining to the profession of dental assisting under the supervision of a registered dental assistant, dental

specialists, dental therapists or oral hygienist, and shall, limit such acts to acts directly related to his or her education and training in dental assisting.

Short title

4. Regulations Defining the Scope of Dental Assistants, made in terms of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974).

DR A MOTSOALEDI, MP
MINISTER OF HEALTH
DATE: 17/4/2012

No. R. 396 **21 Mei 2012**

WET OP GESONDHEIDSBEROEPE, 1974 (WET No. 56 VAN 1974)

REGULASIES WAT DIE OMVANG VAN DIE BEROEP VAN TANDHEELKUNDIGE ASSISTENTE OMSKRYF

Die Minister van Gesondheid het ingevolge artikel 33(1) van die Wet op Gesondheidsberoepe, 1974 (Wet No. 56 van 1974), en op aanbeveling van die Raad vir Gesondheidsberoepe van Suid-Afrika, die regulasies in die Bylae uitgevaardig.

BYLAE

Woordomskrywing

1. In hierdie regulasies beteken "die Wet" die Wet op Gesondheidsberoepe, 1974 (Wet No. 56 van 1974), en het 'n uitdrukking waaraan in die Wet 'n betekenis geheg is, daardie betekenis, en, tensy uit die samehang anders blyk, beteken-

"beroepsraad" die Beroepsraad vir Tandheelkundige Terapie en Mondhigiëne wat ingevolge artikel 15(1) van die Wet ingestel is;

"mondgesondheidspraktisyn" 'n mondhigiënis en ook 'n tandarts, tandspesialis en tandterapeut; en

"tandheelkundige assistent" die persoon wat ingevolge die Wet as sodanig geregistreer is.

Omvang van beroep

2. Die volgende handelinge word vir die doeleindes van die toepassing van die Wet geag handelinge te wees wat by die beroep van tandheelkundige assistent tuishoort:

(a) Voorbereiding en bestuur van die tandheelkundige kliniese omgewing voor, gedurende en na pasiëntsorg;

(b) die sterilisering van instrumente en die ontsmetting van oppervlakke en toerusting in die tandheelkundige omgewing;

(c) die monitering van infeksiebeheer, steriliseringsprosesse en van die bestuur van biologiese, mediese en gevaarlike biomediese afval binne die tandheelkundige omgewing;

(d) die voorbereiding van tandheelkundige materiaal en instrumente (ook tandheelkundige handstukke) vir gebruik in kliniese prosedures wat deur die mondgesondheidspraktisyn verrig word;

(e) hulpverlening met die pasiënt se behoeftes en gemak tydens tandheelkundige behandeling;

(f) die verlening van kliniese bystand deur gebruikmaking van vierhandtandheelkunde wat insluit die oordrag van instrumente en hoëspoedsuig- en debrideertegnieke in prosedures wat deur 'n mondgesondheidspraktisyn verrig word;

(g) die dokumentering van pasiëntdata wat versamel word tydens pasiëntonderhoude, die mondelinge beraming van die harde en sagte weefsels en die mondelinge beraming van ander mondstrukture en tydens die behandeling van die pasiënt;

(h) die verwerking van tandheelkundige X-straalfoto's;

(i) die versorging en die instandhouding van toerusting wat in die tandheelkundige kliniese omgewing gebruik word; en

(j) hulpverlening aan die mondgesondheidspraktisyn in geval van 'n mediese noodgeval in die tandheelkundige omgewing en die toepassing van die nodige maatreëls tydens kliniese noodgevalle.

Verrigting van beroepshandelinge deur student tandheelkundige assistente

3. 'n Student tandheelkundige assistent moet handelinge verrig wat tuishoort by die beroep tandheelkundige assistering onder toesig van 'n geregistreerde tandheelkundige assistent, tanspesialis, tandterapeut of mondhigiënis, en sodanige handelinge word beperk tot handelinge wat regstreeks verband hou met sy of haar onderrig en opleiding in tandheelkundige assistering.

Kort titel

4. Hierdie regulasies heet die *Regulasies wat die omvang van die beroep van tandheelkundige assistente omskryf*, uitgevaardig ingevolge die Wet op Gesondheidsberoepe, 1974.

DR A MOTSOALEDI
MINISTER VAN GESONDHEID
DATUM:

Printed by and obtainable from the Government Printer, Bosman Street, Private Bag X85, Pretoria, 0001
Publications: Tel: (012) 334-4508, 334-4509, 334-4510
Advertisements: Tel: (012) 334-4673, 334-4674, 334-4504
Subscriptions: Tel: (012) 334-4735, 334-4736, 334-4737
Cape Town Branch: Tel: (021) 465-7531
Gedruk deur en verkrygbaar by die Staatsdrukker, Bosmanstraat, Privaatsak X85, Pretoria, 0001
Publikasies: Tel: (012) 334-4508, 334-4509, 334-4510
Advertensies: Tel: (012) 334-4673, 334-4674, 334-4504
Subskripsies: Tel: (012) 334-4735, 334-4736, 334-4737
Kaapstad-tak: Tel: (021) 465-7531