

**NEW HAMPSHIRE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS
DENTAL HYGIENISTS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, April 4, 2022**

All votes are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

The April 4, 2022, meeting of the Dental Hygienists Committee (hereinafter, DHC), New Hampshire Board of Dental Examiners (hereinafter, the Board), was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Jacqueline Harrison, RDH, Chair, with the following members present:

In person:

Barbara Stowers, RDH	(BS)
Jacqueline Harrison, RDH	(JH) – via Zoom
Virginia Moore, RDH	(VM)
Mary Duquette, RDH	(MD)

Members absent:

Jay Patel, DMD	(JP)
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Guests: Jessica Whelehan, Senior Board Administrator, Jenna Wilson, Board Administrator II

Upon motion from MD, second from BS, the DHC voted by roll call vote to accept the March 7, 2022, meeting minutes as presented.

New /Old Business:

1. Jessica Whelehan, Board Administrator, informed the DHC that Dr. Puneet Kochhar, President of the NH Board of Dental Examiners, had been reading over recent DHC minutes and wished to remind the DHC that they needed to stay on topic and address those issues and rules that were specific to Dental Hygiene and Dental Hygienists.
2. JH, via Zoom, stated that the NHDHA provided testimony for HB103 and SB422, relative to adult Medicare. The NHDHA also conducted a workforce survey sent out to all NHDHA members regarding RDHs and workforce. A third party conducted the survey and UNH was hired to review the survey and provide summary; results are pending.
3. JH asked VM if she had heard back on the Oral Health Coordinator inquiry; VM said she had not heard back from the school yet but noted that the Dental Society had discussed this topic at their meeting.
4. The DHC continued reviewing the Den rules, specifically focusing on hygienist duties. JH brought up the question that MD had submitted to the BODE, asking if a test for HbA1c/blood glucose was within the hygienist's scope of practice. MD explained that, similar to taking a patient's blood pressure, this would allow them to have a better overall picture of the patient's health, it would serve to bridge the gap between oral health and overall health. Board Administrator Jenna Wilson asked if the DHC wanted to look at making this a rule change, if the Board responded that it was not within the scope of practice. MD responded that she would recommend looking for a rule change as this would have a positive benefit across the state. BS asked if the tests in question may fall under Den 402.01 (a) 10. JH responded that she thought it may fall under Den 402.01 (a) 3 and 10. MD pointed out that she felt like it may also fall under 402.01 (a) 11. VM said she felt at this point the DHC just needed to wait to see what the BODE

responded, noting that she would bring up the relevant rules at the BODE meeting if needed. JH asked if Den 302.05 (f) (3) h., i. and j. should be reviewed as hygienists placing wire orthodontic appliances required training that was different from the training required to place clear aligners. JH expressed concern that RDHs in NH may be placing buttons for clear liner therapy without the required training, stating that neither Maine nor VT allowed their RDHs to place buttons. Due to time restrictions, the discussion on clear liners was tabled.

JH adjourned meeting at 2:59 p.m.