

Registered Dental Hygienists, Registered Dental Assistants, Qualified Dental Assistant & Non Registered Dental Assistant (DA)

Supervision Rules

[See North Dakota Administrative Code 20-03-01 and 20-04-01; North Dakota Century Code §43-20-03]

General Supervision		Indirect Supervision		Direct Supervision			PROCEDURE
RDH							Complete prophylaxis to include removal of accumulated matter, deposits, accretions, or stains from the natural and restored surfaces of exposed teeth. The dental hygienist may also do root planning and soft tissue curettage upon direct order of the dentist and polish and smooth existing restorations with a slow-speed handpiece.
RDH	RDA						Polish restorations with a slow speed handpiece.
RDH	RDA						Polish the coronal surfaces of teeth with a rubber cup or brush.
RDH	RDA				QDA	DA	Apply topical medications and drugs to oral tissues, including topical anesthetic, but not including desensitizing or caustic agents or anticariogenic agents.
RDH			RDA				Apply anticariogenic agents topically.
RDH			RDA				Apply desensitizing solutions to the surface tissues of the mouth and to exposed surfaces of the teeth, including anticariogenic agents and desensitizing solutions.
RDH	RDA				QDA	DA	Take impressions for study casts.
RDH	RDA				QDA	DA	Take and record preliminary medical and dental histories for the interpretation by the dentist.
RDH	RDA				QDA	DA	Take and record pulse, blood pressure, and temperature.
RDH							Provide oral hygiene treatment planning.
RDH	RDA						Provide oral hygiene education and instruction.
RDH	RDA						Provide an oral assessment for interpretation by the dentist.
RDH			RDA		QDA		Take dental radiographs.
RDH							Apply therapeutic agents subgingivally for the treatment of periodontal disease.
RDH			RDA		QDA	DA	Hold impression trays in the mouth after placement by a dentist (e.g. reversible hydrocolloids, rubber base, etc.).
RDH	RDA				QDA	DA	Receive removable dental prosthesis for cleaning and repair.
RDH			RDA				Dry root canal with paper points
RDH			RDA				Place and remove rubber dams.
RDH					RDA		Place and remove matrix bands or wedges.
RDH			RDA				Take occlusal bite registration for study casts.
RDH			RDA				Place retraction cord in the gingival sulcus of a prepared tooth prior to the dentist taking an impression of the tooth.
RDH	RDA						Fabricate, adjust, place, recement, or remove a temporary crown, bridge, onlay, or temporary restorative material. This applies only to dentitions actively under treatment for which a permanent restoration is being fabricated.
RDH					RDA		Adjust permanent crowns outside of the mouth.

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General Supervision		Indirect Supervision		Direct Supervision			PROCEDURE
RDH			RDA				Remove excess cement from inlays, crowns, bridges, and orthodontic appliances with hand instruments only.
RDH			RDA				Perform non-surgical clinical and laboratory oral diagnostic tests, including pulp testing, for interpretation by the dentist.
RDH			RDA				Place and remove periodontal dressings, dry socket medications, and packing.
RDH	RDA						Remove sutures.
RDH	RDA						Repack dry socket medication and packing for palliative treatment.
RDH			RDA				Monitor a patient who has been inducted by a dentist into nitrous-oxide relative analgesia.
				RDH			Administer local anesthesia under the direct supervision of a dentist if criteria in section 20-04-01-03 are met.
RDH			RDA				Take impressions for fixed or removable orthodontic appliances, athletic mouth guards, bleaching trays, bite splints, flippers, and removable prosthetic repairs.
					RDA		Administer emergency medications to a patient in order to assist the dentist in an emergency.
RDH			RDA				Preselect and prefit orthodontic bands
RDH			RDA				Place, tie, and remove ligature wires and elastic ties, and place orthodontic separators.
RDH					RDA		Place and remove arch wires or appliances that have been activated by the dentist.
RDH	RDA						Cut and remove arch wires or replace loose bands, loose brackets or other orthodontic appliances for palliative treatment.
RDH					RDA		Place ortho brackets using an indirect bonding technique by seating the transfer tray loaded with brackets previously positioned by the DDS; acid –etch enamel surfaces prior to direct bonding of orthodontic brackets, or composite restorations.
RDH					RDA		Place orthodontic brackets using an indirect bonding technique by seating the transfer tray loaded with brackets previously positioned in the dental laboratory by a licensed dentist.
RDH					RDA		Take face bow transfers.
RDH	RDA						Apply pit and fissure sealants if criteria set out in 20-03-01-04 of the ND Administrative Rules are met. Adjust sealants with slow speed handpiece.
RDH					RDA		Orally transmit a prescription that has been authorized by the supervising dentist.

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[See North Dakota Administrative Code 20-03-01 and 20-04-01; North Dakota Century Code §43-20-03]

Contiguous Supervision		Direct Visual Supervision		Direct Supervision		Renew permit when license renews	DUTIES WHICH REQUIRE A PERMIT
				RDH		no	Administer local anesthesia under the direct supervision of a dentist if criteria in section 20-04-01-03 are met.
				RDH	RDA	X	Restorative functions: a. Place, carve and adjust class I, II, and class V amalgam or glass ionomer restorations b. Adapt and cement stainless steel crowns; and c. Place, contour, and adjust class I, II, and class V composite restorations where the margins are entirely within the enamel with hand instruments or a slow-speed handpiece.
RDH	RDA					X	Anesthesia duties: a. Initiate and discontinue an intravenous line for a patient being prepared to receive intravenous medications, sedation or general anesthesia. b. Adjust the rate of intravenous fluids infusion only to maintain or keep the line patent or open. c. Prepare anesthesia equipment and perform patient monitoring d. Assist with emergency treatment and protocols.
		RDH	RDA			X	Anesthesia duties: a. Draw up and prepare medications. b. Follow instructions to deliver medication into an intravenous line upon verbal command of the supervising dentist. c. Adjust the rate of intravenous fluids infusion beyond a keep-open rate upon verbal command of the supervising dentist; and d. Adjust an electronic device to provide medications, such as an infusion pump upon the verbal command of the supervising dentist.

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RDH	RDA/QDA	PROHIBITED DUTIES
X	X	Diagnosis and treatment planning.
X	X	Surgery on any hard or soft tissue.
X	X	Administer local anesthetics, sedation or general anesthesia drugs or titrate local anesthetics, sedation or general anesthesia drugs without a board authorized permit.
X	X	Any irreversible dental procedure or procedures which require the professional judgment and skill of a licensed dentist.
X	X	Adjust a crown which has been cemented by a dentist.
X	X	Cement or bond orthodontic bands or brackets that have not been previously placed by a dentist.
X	X	Activate any type of orthodontic appliance.
X	X	Cement or bond orthodontic bands or brackets that have not been previously placed by a dentist.
X	X	Place bases or cavity liners.
	X	Scaling, root planing, or gingival curettage.
	X	Measure the gingival sulcus with a periodontal probe.
X	X	Use a high-speed handpiece inside the mouth.

ND Administrative Code chapter 20-01-02-01. Definitions:

Contiguous supervision means that the dentist whose patient is being treated has personally authorized the procedures to be performed. The supervising dentist is continuously onsite and physically present in the treatment facility while the procedures are performed by the dental anesthesia auxiliary and capable of responding immediately in the event of an emergency. The term does not require a supervising dentist to be physically present in the operatory.

Direct supervision means the dentist is in the dental office or treatment facility, personally diagnoses the condition to be treated, personally authorizes the procedures and remains in the dental office or treatment facility while the procedures are being performed by the dental hygienist or dental assistant, and before dismissal of the patient, evaluates the performance of the dental hygienist or dental assistant.

Direct visual supervision means supervision by a dentist by verbal command and under direct line of sight.

General supervision means the dentist has authorized the procedures and they are carried out in accordance with the dentist's diagnosis and treatment plan. The dentist is not required to be in the treatment facility. Limitations are contained in North Dakota Century Code §43-20-03.

Indirect supervision means a dentist is in the dental office or treatment facility, has personally diagnosed the condition to be treated, authorizes the procedures, and remains in the dental office or treatment facility while the procedures are being performed by the dental hygienist or dental assistant.