

#2720

From: jennifer.boyd1@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, September 15, 2008 9:26 PM *Mc'd IRRC*
To: IRRC
Subject: dental hygienist practice changes

Dear Sir or Madam,

I writing to express my strong support for the proposed changes to the supervision level currently required for dental hygienists by dentists. As a practicing hygienist for 15 years, I know that my education was more than sufficient to prepare me to treat patients without direct supervision. In point of fact, the dentist is never in the room when I treat a patient, and hasn't been for 15 years. The fact that he has been 50 yards away in a different part of the office is akin to him not being on the premises at all. He would be the first to tell you that. I am also very interested in learning proper administration of local anesthesia. This would reduce the burden on my dentist employer and improve the quality of my patients' care.

Please make the following changes:

Revised wording for supervision of RDH in private practice to: "level of supervision will be determined by the dentist and the RDH after review of the patients' medical and dental history"

- **Inclusion of free health clinics like Community Volunteers in Medicine along with Federally Qualified Health Center LOOK-A-LIKES and non-profit clinics as sites for Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioners to practice**

Thank you,

Jennifer Boyd RDH, BS, EFDA