



STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

The Practice of Denturism

- Denturists in their practice, do one or more of the following:
 1. Assessing, diagnosing and treating persons who are missing some or all of their natural teeth;
 2. Designing, constructing, repairing, altering and fitting of any complete or partial denture for the purpose of restoring and maintaining function and appearance; and
 3. Provide the Restricted Activities authorized by the Denturists Profession Regulation
- Denturists provide the professional administration of clinical, laboratory, and business practices related to the Profession of Denturism.

Responsibilities

- The needs and wellbeing of the patient are paramount.
- Provide appropriate care of your patients, treating them with respect and do not exploit them for personal gain or advantage.
- Practice the profession of Denturism competently and without impairment.
- Practice within your competence and limitations; where necessary, refer to other denturists or health care practitioners for additional opinions and services.
- Support and provide for the advancement of the Profession.
- Understand and adhere to the requirements of the Health Professions Act, the Denturists Profession Regulation, the College of Alberta Denturists By-laws, Codes of Ethics and these Standards of Practice.

Ethics

- Practice the profession with respect to the guidelines and confines of the College of Alberta Denturists Code of Ethics.

Principles of Business

- Apply the principles of general business including but not limited to, accounting, record keeping, and proprietary and corporate implications on your practice, applicable tax laws, employment and management requirements, insurance requirements, and licensure.

Communication

- Communicate clearly and accurately in both written and oral forms with patients, peers, other professionals, staff, and the general public.

Bio-Sciences

- In the provision of Denturist services, utilize the knowledge of advanced principles of head, neck, and oral anatomy, human physiology, gnathology, gerontology, psychology, periodontology, pathology, implantology, and microbiology.

Dental Prosthetic Services

- In the provision of Denturist services, provide patients with the theoretical basis of prosthetic care.
- Apply a working knowledge of both clinical and laboratory requirements in the provision of removable dental prosthesis, including both patient and practitioner removable prosthesis. This includes proper documentation, diagnosis, treatment planning, and selection of appropriate dental materials.

Ending a Patient-Practitioner Relationship

- Without limiting a practitioner's right to refuse to provide professional services to a patient for legitimate reasons, a practitioner is obligated to inform the patient of a personal circumstance or belief, which would influence treatment.
- Upon initiation of treatment, a practitioner must continue to provide treatment until:
 1. The services are no longer required or desired by the patient; or
 2. Until another practitioner has taken responsibility for the patient; or
 3. Until you have provided the patient with reasonable notification that you are ending the relationship, (where such notification is provided in writing to the patient and does not place the patient into a position of duress or immediate need of treatment by another practitioner).

Self-Evaluation

- Apply skills required for self-evaluation, problem solving, and constructive criticism.
- Apply and ensure the continual ongoing evaluation of professional competency and wherever necessary, take steps to correct any incompetence.
- Adhere to the understanding that self-regulation of the profession is a privilege, and that each practitioner has a continual responsibility to merit this privilege.

Patient Management

- Provide professional services to all patients regardless of age, gender, cultural or ethnic origin, physical or mental disabilities, political affiliation, medical condition, religion, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status. This does not supersede justifiable dismissal of a patient.
- Respect the patient's right to confidentiality within the law.
- Provide and manage referral of patients to required and appropriate health care providers.
- Maintain proper and complete patient records.
- Document all interactions with patients and other care providers.

Treatment Planning

- Provide each patient with all reasonably viable treatment plans in order for the patient to provide informed consent to treatment.
- Provide each patient with a prognosis; explain the advantages and disadvantages of different treatment plans.
- Where possible, ensure that the patient's wishes and desires are incorporated into a suitable treatment plan.

Denturists Providing Internship

- A Denturist, who has an Intern working under his or her supervision, shall:
 1. Complete any documentation required or requested by the College.
 2. Ensure that the Intern has a satisfactory work experience; this includes an opportunity to participate in the full range of work, use of various materials and techniques, including those as outlined in any guidelines prepared by the College, with respect to Internship.
 3. Comply with all College requirements regarding Internships, including allowing visitations by the College or its appointee, for the purpose of reviewing the standard of work experience being provided.
- Denturists who are providing Intern Supervision are reminded that it is a privilege to have an Intern, not a right. Further, it is required that an Intern be under the direct supervision of the preceptor for the duration of the Internship, and that the supervision be consistent with the guidelines of the Denturist Regulation regarding Internship.

Sterilization

Apply aseptic techniques and environmental controls to ensure an adequate hygienic environment, including the understanding and implementation of Universal Precautions are required for all Denturists.

Continuing Education

All Denturists must expand their knowledge of the profession with the use of approved Continuing Education Courses.

These Standards of Practice were approved by Council on May 06, 2005.