
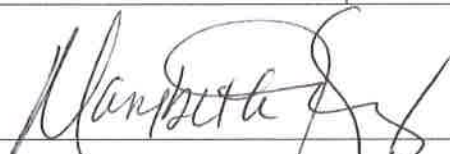
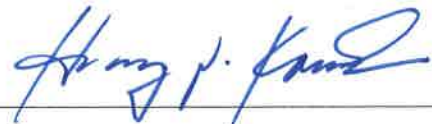


<p>POLICY NUMBER <b>B-501</b></p>	<p>POLICY TITLE: <b>Policy Regarding the Monitoring of Nitrous oxide-Oxygen (N<sub>2</sub>O-O<sub>2</sub>) Minimal Sedation By Dental Hygienists</b></p>
	<p>RELATES TO: OHIO STATE DENTAL BOARD REGULATED AUXILIARY PERSONNEL</p>
<p>EFFECTIVE DATE: <b>September 14, 2016</b></p> <p>NEXT REVIEW DATE: <b>June, 2017</b></p>	<p><u>LICENSED DENTAL HYGIENISTS</u></p>

  
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**I. Purpose**

The Ohio State Dental Board (Board) is committed to ensuring the safe practice of dentistry to the public. The purpose of this policy is to clarify the Board's position regarding the monitoring of nitrous oxide-oxygen (N<sub>2</sub>O-O<sub>2</sub>) minimal sedation by dental hygienists.

**Legal Authority**

O.R.C. 4715.22 Supervision of Licensed Dentist

Education and Training

O.A.C. 4715-11-02.1 Monitoring Nitrous Oxide-Oxygen (N<sub>2</sub>O-O<sub>2</sub>) Minimal Sedation; Education, Training and Examination Required.

## Minimum Practice Requirement

O.A.C. 4715-9-01.3 Monitoring Nitrous Oxide-Oxygen (N<sub>2</sub>O-O<sub>2</sub>) Minimal Sedation; Education or Training Requirements.

## II. Applicability

The policy applies to the practice of dental hygienists under the direct supervision of the licensed supervising dentist.

### Definitions

Direct Supervision O.A.C. 4715-3-01(N)(2) which states: acts are deemed to be under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist when performed in a dental facility wherein a licensed dentist is physically present at all times during the performance of such acts and such acts are performed pursuant to his order, control and full professional responsibility, and are checked and approved by the licensed dentist before the patient upon whom such act has been performed departs from the dental facility of said dentist.

Licensed Dental Hygienists O.A.C. 4715-3-01(C)(5) which states: a graduate of an accredited dental hygiene school or program who has successfully passed all examinations, completed all application requirements for licensure in Ohio as set forth in section 4715.21 of the Revised Code and the agency rules of this board, and holds a current license to practice dental hygiene in Ohio which is not suspended or revoked by board action.

Monitor Webster's Dictionary defines a monitor as someone who advises, warns or cautions. The verb monitoring is defined as "to watch" or "to regulate the performance of, [a machine]"

## III. Procedure

### 1. Dental Hygienists: 4715-9-01 Permissible practices of a dental hygienist

Paragraph (A)(3) of Ohio Administrative Code section 4715-9-01 stipulates that a dental hygienist may monitor N<sub>2</sub>O-O<sub>2</sub> minimal sedation if specific requirements are met. Additionally, all licensed dental hygienists may perform the duties of basic qualified personnel under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist, including the monitoring of N<sub>2</sub>O-O<sub>2</sub> minimal sedation. As with the dental assistant, in order to be allowed to monitor N<sub>2</sub>O-O<sub>2</sub> minimal sedation under the direct supervision of the licensed dentist, the dental hygienist must document current completion of basic life-support, and all education and examination requirements on a form supplied by the Board. This form MUST be maintained in the dental office wherein the dental hygienist is practicing.

It is the position of the Board that with respect to the Administrative Code section in question, monitoring means to watch or check on. Once the licensed dentist has initiated and administered the nitrous oxide, the trained dental auxiliary is to monitor the N<sub>2</sub>O-O<sub>2</sub> minimal sedation and advise or warn the dentist if something is wrong. The dentist then is the one responsible for adjusting levels, etc. The only thing a

dental auxiliary can do short of monitoring, –is remove the nitrous oxide delivery apparatus from the patient in an emergency.

#### **IV. Attachments**

Permissible Practices Documentation for Dental Hygienists

#### **VI. Monitoring**

The supervisory staff overseeing the daily practices of the procedures contained within this policy shall utilize quality tools and instruments to ensure compliance.

An interdisciplinary team comprised of the Director, Deputy Director, and Policy Committee of the Board, shall meet as needed throughout the year to review policies and procedures and integrate collaborative services. Assigned designees may represent each of these respective disciplines. All policies must be documented as an official review in the policy database on an annual basis.

Each year, the policy design team shall review the quality assurance data and results derived from audit reports, quality tools and instruments, legal or investigatory measures, and interdisciplinary team meeting summaries and/or actions, and incorporate the findings and other improvement recommendations as revisions to the current policies and procedures or develop new policies when necessary.

#### **V. Training**

This revised policy requires staff education or training prior to policy implementation.

#### **VI. References**

- O.R.C. 4715.22 Supervision of Licensed Dentist.