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| <p>POLICY NUMBER<br/><b>G-511</b></p>   | <p>POLICY TITLE: <b>Policy Regarding the Monitoring of Nitrous oxide-Oxygen (N20-02) Minimal Sedation By Qualified Dental Assistants</b></p> |
|                      | <p>RELATES TO: OHIO STATE DENTAL BOARD REGULATED AUXILIARY PERSONNEL</p>   |
| <p>EFFECTIVE DATE:<br/><b>December 6, 2017</b></p> <p>NEXT REVIEW DATE:<br/><b>December, 2022</b></p> | <p><u>BASIC QUALIFIED PERSONNEL</u></p>  |

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Constance Clark, R.D.H., President

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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 (N20-02) minimal sedation by qualified dental assistants.

**Legal Authority**

O.R.C. 4715.39                      Permitted Duties

Education and Training

O.A.C. 4715-11-02.1 Monitoring Nitrous Oxide-Oxygen (N20-02) Minimal Sedation; Education, Training and Examination Required.

Minimum Practice Requirement  
O.A.C. 4715-11-02(B)(39) Basic Qualified Personnel; Functions.

## **II. Applicability**

The policy applies to the practice of appropriately trained basic qualified personnel under the direct supervision of the licensed supervising dentist.

## **III. Definitions**

**Basic Qualified Personnel** O.A.C. 4715-3-01(C)(8) which states: basic qualified personnel are those persons who are adjudged by the licensed dentist to be capable and competent of performing basic remediable intra-oral and extra-oral dental tasks and/or procedures under his direct supervision and full responsibility. These persons must be trained directly via an employer-dentist, via a planned sequence of instruction in an educational institution or via in-office training

**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.

**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]"

## **IV. Procedure**

### **1. Dental Assistants: 4715-11-02 Basic qualified personnel; functions**

Paragraph (B)(39) of Ohio Administrative Code section 4715-11-02 stipulates that a dental assistant may monitor *N<sub>2</sub>O-O<sub>2</sub>* minimal sedation if specific requirements are met. Further, 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 assistant 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 assistant 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.

## **V. Attachments**

Permissible Practices Documentation for Dental Assistants

## **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.

## **VI. Training**

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

## **VII. References**

- O.R.C. 4715.39 Permitted Duties.