

**Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama**  
**Administrative Rule 270-X-3-.10**  
**Duties Of Allied Dental Personnel**

Allied dental personnel are dental hygienists, dental assistants and dental laboratory technicians.

Subject to the prohibition that no intra-oral procedure can be performed unless under the direct supervision of a duly licensed dentist as defined by Board rule, the following allied dental personnel may perform the following:

(1) Dental Laboratory Technicians:

(a) No intra-oral duties are allowable other than assisting the dentist in determining tooth color.

(2) Dental Assistants and Dental Hygienists:

(a) Preliminary charting and inspection of the oral cavity. (Final examination and diagnosis must be made by a dentist before treatment can be instituted.)

(b) Apply topical agents under direct supervision of the dentist.

1. Apply topical anesthetics.

2. Oxygenating Agents. (Excluding endodontic therapy.)

3. Apply anti-inflammatory agents.

4. Apply astringents.

5. Desensitizing agents.

6. Topical fluoride.

7. Apply light-cured medicinal bonding agents.

8. Apply etchant materials.

(c) Place and remove rubber dam.

(d) Place and remove periodontal dressings.

(e) Place and remove alveolar socket dressings.

(f) Construct and remove with hand instruments only interim restorations. (Interim restorations being any restoration

placed while a more permanent restoration is being completed.)

(g) Construct and place temporary crowns (excluding stainless steel crowns placed with intentions of reasonable permanency.)

(h) Contour stainless steel or chrome crowns but cannot cement them.

(i) Pre-fit and pre-contour orthodontic appliances either extra-orally or intra-orally for final adaptation by the dentist.

(j) Remove excess cement with hand instruments from around permanent dental restorations and orthodontic appliances.

(k) Make impressions for diagnostic casts or opposing casts.

(l) Place, wedge and remove matrices for operative dentistry.

(m) Take and record case history, blood pressure, pulse, and oral temperature.

(n) Remove intraoral sutures. (Excluding wire sutures.)

(o) Make dental radiographs or digital images.

(p) Give oral hygiene instructions including plaque staining, flossing, brushing, and caries susceptibility tests.

(q) Place cavity liners and bases. (Excluding capping of exposed pulpal tissues.)

(r) Assist in the administering of N2O and O2.

(s) Insert into the mouth of the patient wax models of dentures, partial dentures, or any other structures and make adjustments outside the mouth of the patient to such wax models pursuant to written or verbal instructions or directions from the dentist; provided, however,

1. That the dental hygienist or dental assistant may use these wax models of dentures, partial dentures or any other structure to register the jaw relationships or occlusal relationships of the patient, and

2. That before such wax models may be used for the manufacture of dentures, partial dentures or other structures the dentist shall personally consult with the patient, examine such wax models, and make such additional adjustments as may be required.

(t) Insert into the mouth of the patient dentures, partial dentures, removable orthodontic appliances, prostheses, devices to treat sleep apnea or anti-snoring devices, or any other structures and make adjustments outside the mouth of the patient to the dentures, prostheses (fixed or removable), removable orthodontic appliances, prosthetic appliances, bridges, or other structures pursuant to written or verbal instructions or directions from the dentist; provided, however,

1. That before such prostheses (fixed or removable), removable orthodontic appliances, or other structures are delivered to the patient leaving the dental office with such removable orthodontic appliances, prostheses (fixed or removable) or other structures the dentist shall personally consult with the patient, examine such prostheses (fixed or removable), removable orthodontic appliances, or other structures, and make such additional adjustments as may be required; and

2. That final placement and cementation of all fixed appliances, fixed prostheses and other fixed structures shall be performed by the dentist.

(u) Apply reversible liners and bases to prostheses, orthodontic appliances, or any other structures. However, the dentist shall personally consult with the patient and examiner such liners and bases, and make such additional adjustments as may be required.

(v) Place and remove gingival retraction materials.

(w) Make final impressions for removable and fixed prostheses, orthodontic appliances, retainers, devices to treat sleep apnea or anti-snoring devices, and medicament/whitening delivery trays. However, before said impressions may be used for the manufacture of prostheses and appliances, the dentist shall examine and approve such impressions for accuracy.

(x) Use laser and/or narrow band (light) imaging technology for preliminary diagnostic purposes only with the dentist's final examination and diagnosis.

(3) Dental Hygienists Only:

(a) Remove extrinsic stains, accretions, and calcareous deposits from teeth.

(b) Gingival curettage.

(c) Root planing.

(d) Polish completed restorations.

(e) Place Pit and Fissure Sealant and polish and adjust sealant as needed.

(f) Place resorbable chlorhexidine chips.

(g) Place topical or sub-gingival antimicrobial or antibacterial agents.

(h) Periodontal probing.

(i) Bleaching of teeth.

**AUTHOR:**

Board of Dental Examiners

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:**

Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-9-2, 34-9-6, 34-9-27, 34-9-43.

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