

POLICY STATEMENT



NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR
COLLEGE OF
DENTAL HYGIENISTS INC.

PERMANENT DENTAL RESTORATION

PURPOSE

To clarify the dental hygiene scope of practice as it relates to permanent dental restorations.

BACKGROUND

Restorations of a permanent nature include, but are not limited to, fabrication of provisional restorations and permanent direct restorations, bonding and/or cementing of indirect restorations, and torquing of implants.

A permanent dental restoration may be required if a patient's teeth are missing, decayed, weakened, or fractured. Permanent dental restorations can include fillings, crowns, implants, bridges, and dentures.

A Registered Dental Hygienist shall not perform permanent restorative procedures unless:

- a) the member is authorized by the council for the additional skill of restorative, upon proof of successful completion of the required education for the performance of the procedure;
- b) the authorization to perform the procedure is attached to the members registration; and
- c) the member performs the procedure under the direction of a dentist

POLICY STATEMENT

In accordance with the *Health Professions Act*, the Newfoundland College of Dental Hygienists (NLCDH) articulates the scope of practice for Registered Dental Hygienists in the province. The NLCDH does permit dental hygienists to perform permanent dental restorations.

POLICY EXPECTATIONS

In accordance with the Newfoundland College of Dental Hygienist (NLCDH) Scope of Practice¹, a Registered Dental Hygienist can perform permanent restoration work in collaboration with a dentist if they have met the requirements and have registered for a restorative practice skill upon registration (and renewal).

Registered Dental Hygienists who have been granted a restorative practice skill are required to maintain continuing competency and declared work hours.

¹ NLCDH Scope of Practice; Implementation Competency #46, p. 3. www.nlcdh.com

“In collaboration with a dentist” means that the dentist must prepare (cut) the tooth prior to the dental hygienist placing, carving and finishing the restorative material. Dental hygienists are not authorized to cut teeth as part of the performance of restorative procedures of a permanent nature.

CLIENT / PATIENT EXPECTATIONS

The client can expect that a dental hygienist will only provide permanent restorative services if they have completed the required education, have been granted the additional skill upon registration (and renewal) and are collaborating with a dentist.

Published December 11, 2023