

Function	Supervision Required	Practice Act Citation	Rules and Regulations Citation	Most Recent Legislative Change
Prophylaxis	None	12-220-503 (1)(a) - Pg. 35-36		
Radiographs	None	12-220-503 (1)(d)(V) - Pg. 35-36		
Local Anesthesia	Indirect, Direct, or Telehealth	12-220-504 (1)(f) - Pg. 36	Page 33 - Rule 1.14 (F) Page 35 - Rule 1.14 (H)	
Topical Anesthesia	None	12-220-503 (1)(e) – Pg. 35-36		
Fluoride Application	None	12-220-503 (1)(c) and (g) – Pg. 35-36 19	Page 28-30 - Rule 1.13	2014 – Limited Prescriptive Authority
Pit/Fissure Sealants	None	12-220-503 (1)(c) – Pg. 35-36		
Scaling and Root Planing	None	12-220-503 (1)(a) – Pg. 35-36		
Soft Tissue Curretage/Removal of Granulation Tissue	None	12-220-503 (1)(b) – Pg. 35-36		
Nitrous Oxide Administration	Direct	12-220-411 (4)(a) – Pg. 31	Page 34 - Rule 1.14 (G)	
Study Casts	None	12-220-503 (1)(d)(II) – Pg. 35-36		
Dental Hygiene Diagnosis	None	12-220-503 (1)(f) – Pg. 35-36		
Dental Hygiene Treatment Planning	None	12-220-503 (1)(f) – Pg. 35-36		
Dental Hygiene Assessment	None	12-220-503 (1)(f) – Pg. 35-36		
Prescriptive Authority	None*	12-220-503 (1)(g) – Pg. 35-36	Page 28-30 - Rule 1.13	2014
Laser Use	Indirect, Direct, or Telehealth	12-220-106 (1)(a)(I) – Pg. 5	Page 65-66 - Rule 1.22	2017
Silver Diamine Fluoride	None*	12-220-503 (1)(g) – Pg. 35-36 *Citation effective September 1, 2021	Page 68-70 - Rule 1.26	2021
Interim Therapeutic Restorations (ITR)	Indirect, Direct, or Telehealth	12-220-504 (1)(i) – Pg. 36 12-220-128. – Pg. 24-25	Page 66-68 Rule 1.25	2021
Identify Dental Abnormalities for Referral to a Dentist	None	12-220-503 (1)(f) – Pg. 35-36		
Own a Dental Hygiene Practice	None	12-220-503 (3) - Pg. 19		

*Requires Written Articulated Plan

Note: "A dental hygienist may perform any dental task or procedure assigned to the hygienist by a licensed dentist that does not require the professional skill of a licensed dentist; except that the dental hygienist may perform the task or procedure only under the indirect supervision of a licensed dentist." Colorado Dental Practice Act 12-220-501 (2) – Page 32

Colorado Definitions

"Direct Supervision" means the supervision of those tasks or procedures that do not require the presence of the dentist in the room where performed but require the dentist's presence on the premises and availability for prompt consultation and treatment. Colorado Dental Practice Act 12-220-104 (7)(a) - Pg. 2

"Indirect Supervision" means the supervision of those tasks or procedures that do not require the presence of the dentist in the office or on the premises at the time such tasks or procedures are being performed, but do require that the tasks be performed with the prior knowledge and consent of the dentist. Colorado Dental Practice Act 12-220-104 (9)(a) - Pg. 3

Unsupervised Dental Hygiene - Unsupervised dental hygiene may be performed by licensed dental hygienists without the supervision of a licensed dentist. Colorado Dental Practice Act 12-220-503 - Pg. 35

"Dental Hygiene Diagnosis" means the identification of an existing oral health problem that a dental hygienist is qualified and licensed to treat within the scope of dental hygiene practice. The dental hygiene diagnosis focuses on behavioral risks and physical conditions that are related to oral health. A dentist shall confirm any dental hygiene diagnosis that requires treatment that is outside the scope of dental hygiene practice pursuant to sections 12-220-501, 12-220-503, and 12-220-504. Colorado Dental Practice Act 12-220-104 (5) - Pg. 2

"Interim therapeutic restoration" or "ITR":

(10) (a) "Interim therapeutic restoration" means a direct provisional restoration placed to stabilize a tooth until a licensed dentist can assess the need for further definitive treatment.

(b) "Interim therapeutic restoration" involves the removal of soft material using hand instrumentation, without the use of rotary instrumentation, and the subsequent placement of a glass ionomer restoration, or pursuant to board rules, a restoration using new restorative materials that may become available and are appropriate to the interim therapeutic procedure.

(c) "Interim therapeutic restoration" includes protective restoration for adults delivered in accordance with section 12-220-505. Colorado Dental Practice Act 12-220-104 - Pg. 3