

## Expectations for clinical and ethical practice

# Practice Standard #5

## Applies to Dental Hygienists



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The British Columbia College of Oral Health Professionals (BCCOHP) was created on September 1, 2022 through the amalgamation of four health regulatory colleges: the College of Dental Hygienists of BC, the College of Dental Surgeons of BC, the College of Dental Technicians of BC, and the College of Denturists of BC. All current requirements for standards of clinical and ethical practice issued by the four colleges remain in place upon amalgamation. This document was created by the College of Dental Hygienists of BC and will be updated to reflect the amalgamation.

## PRACTICE STANDARD POLICY #5

**5.1** Dental hygienists must endeavor to integrate the dental hygiene treatment plan with the dentist's plan for the client's comprehensive dental care.

**5.2** When indicated, dental hygienists must consult with the client's dentist, and may consult with other applicable health care providers, in order to integrate the plan for dental hygiene services into the client's total health care plan.

**5.3** Dental hygienists must discuss the dental hygiene plan for services with the client or the client's representative. In a clinical setting this should include:

- oral health and wellness information and techniques
- treatment options
- pain and anxiety control options
- the number of appointments recommended
- the recommended time interval between appointments
- services to be provided at each appointment
- short-term goals that could result from the recommended services and how they will be evaluated
- risks of the recommended services
- recommendations for future referrals to dentists and other health care providers, if applicable
- risks of the client declining the recommended services.

**5.4** Dental hygienists may discuss long-term goals with the client or the client's representative including evaluation of the goals.

**5.5** Dental hygienists may discuss fees associated with the plan.