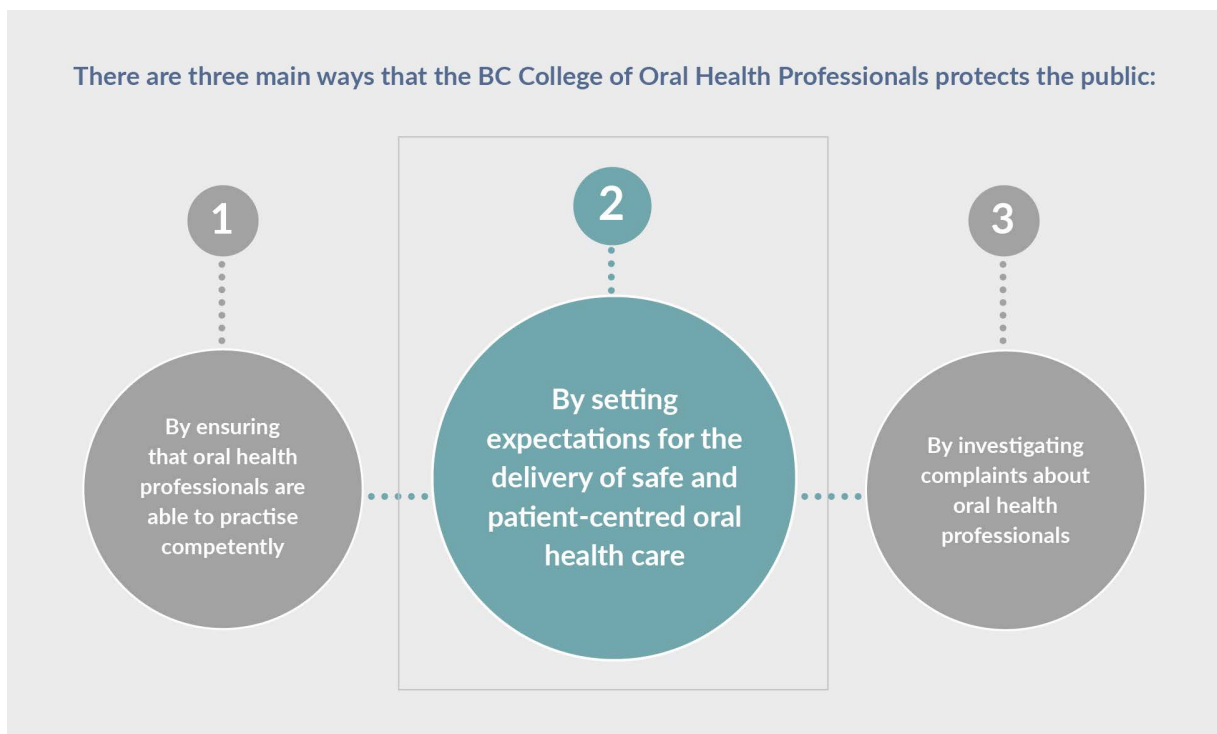


## Expectations for clinical and ethical practice

# Building the Dentist/Patient Relationship

Applies to Dentists

There are three main ways that the BC College of Oral Health Professionals protects the public:



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 Surgeons of BC and will be updated to reflect the amalgamation.

## Building the Dentist/Patient Relationship

*The core of the dentist-patient relationship is a trusting relationship. This information sheet provides some of the key obligations and roles that the dentist and the patient can expect of each other.*

### Dentists

To provide you with professional care, I will

- Stay current in my field of practice
- Provide a safe office and clinical environment for your oral health care
- Always put your health interests first
- Tell you what I see and think and explain all of your options
- Tell you up front what the expected costs of treatment are and the expected outcomes
- Listen to your questions and answer them
- Provide only those dental services that are consistent with your oral health care needs and for which you have given full, free and informed consent
- Maintain and safeguard your medical/dental records and charts and provide you a copy upon request
- Consult and work collaboratively with other health care providers to look after your oral health care needs
- Be available during and after treatment to provide ongoing and/or emergency care and to answer any questions you have
- Respect the trust and confidentiality central to our doctor/patient relationship
- Respect your right to seek a second opinion



### Patients

What you can do to optimize your oral health

- Give me an accurate, truthful, and complete medical and dental history
- Tell me your concerns
- Show up for your appointments (tell me in advance if you need to reschedule)
- Allow me the opportunity to help you
- Be an active participant in maintaining your oral health care
- Raise any questions or concerns about your care
- Work with me to ensure I always maintain your trust and confidence
- Treat me and my staff with courtesy and respect

An information sheet provides a factual summary or outline of instructions, information and/or processes that are relevant to registrants.

[www.cdsbc.org](http://www.cdsbc.org)  
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