

A Note from the President

Hello Arizona dental hygienists! I hope your September is going well. We just wrapped up the association's biggest fundraiser of the year, the AzDHA's Impact Conference. In keeping with our goal of building alliances with strategic partners, we hosted alongside the Western Society of Periodontology (WSP) and the Academy of Microscope Enhanced Dentistry (AMED).

At AzDHA, our mission is clear: we aim to advance our profession and support our members' success in order to improve both oral and overall health. We envision a future where dental hygienists are integral primary care providers within the healthcare system. Let's keep progressing toward that goal.

In the spirit of collaboration, I'm excited to share I connected with a hygienist who practices using a microscope in Charlotte, North Carolina. I plan to visit her at the office where she works in November. Keep your eyes open for an update later this year! This opportunity to learn about something new was made possible by the joining of the Impact Conference and AMED's 22nd annual meeting.

Be sure to check AzDHA's social and web pages so you can stay current on what's going on. If you are interested or have questions about volunteering, contact volunteers.azdha@gmail.com

Next month we will be meeting for the AzDHA General Assembly. I invite all members to attend and share your voice and opinion with your leaders and peers.

Hang in there Arizonans! We're almost out of the heat and into our favorite weather.

Valery Brady, AAS, RDH President, AzDHA



The Four Conditions of Administering Botox and/or Dermal Fillers

Last month we addressed the question, "Can Dental Hygienists Administer BOTOX and/or Dermal Fillers?". Based on questions we have received, we thought it important to share again to emphasize the four conditions that must be met and highlight a couple other relevant statutes.

The Arizona Attorney General (AG) published <u>a formal opinion</u> on the subject in May. The summary answer, in part, reads as follows:

"Current law permits a dental hygienist to perform procedures beyond those listed in A.R.S. § 32-1281, such as administering Botox, so long as four conditions are met: (1) the procedure is recommended or prescribed by the supervising dentist; (2) the dental hygienist has received instruction, training, or education to perform the procedure in a safe manner; (3) the procedure is performed under the general supervision of a licensed dentist; and (4) the procedure is not irreversible, as defined by Arizona Administrative Code R4-11-101."

Dental hygienists are specifically prohibited from performing an "irreversible procedure" as defined in R4-11-101 which reads as follows:

"Irreversible procedure" means a single treatment, or a step in a series of treatments, that causes change in the affected hard or soft tissues and is permanent or may require reconstructive or corrective procedures to correct the changes."

The AG did not opine on whether the administration of Botox constitutes an irreversible procedure within the meaning of R4-11-101. The AZ Board of Dental Examiners has declined to do so as well, suggesting that it would constitute giving legal advice which they are not allowed to do.

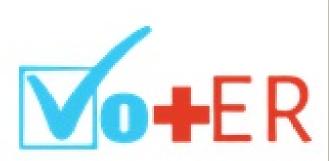
Here are a couple other relevant statutes to consider:

According to 32-1281(H) a dental hygienist may perform dental hygiene procedures in the following settings:

- 1. On a patient of record of a dentist within that dentist's office.
- Except as prescribed in section 32-1289.01, in a health care facility, long-term care facility, public health agency or institution, public or private school or homebound setting on patients who have been examined by a dentist within the previous year. [32-1289.01 pertains to Affiliated Practice Agreements which do not require a dentist's exam, but settings are still limited]
- 3. In an inpatient hospital setting pursuant to subsection E of this section. [Under the general supervision of a physician] 32-1281(J)(3) states that "General supervision" means "that the dentist is available for consultation, whether or not the dentist is in the dentist's office, over procedures that the dentist has authorized and for which the dentist remains responsible."

Prudent practitioners will consider all four conditions, perhaps seek legal advice from an attorney, then exercise their sound professional judgement to determine the legality of administrating these agents.

And Now - A Word from Our Partners, the Arizona Oral Health Coalition





VotER's work is driven by a community of health care professionals, organizers, clinical students, and technologists united by a common vision: healthy communities powered by inclusive democracy.

Vot-ER programs exist in over 500 hospitals and clinics and helped tens of thousands of Americans register and prepare to vote. Voting is just one tool to advocate for what we care about—but it's a powerful one.

Research shows that our communities are healthier when more voters can participate in the democratic process. States with more inclusive voting policies and higher civic participation rates have better health outcomes.

The broad reach of our healthcare system, combined with the trusted role many doctors, nurses, and social workers hold in their communities, make healthcare an ideal arena for civic engagement to engage voters.

<u>Learn more and get involved!</u> Vote for Oral Health!



Our oral health shouldn't depend on our wealth, where we live, our race, or our age. Adding dental coverage to Medicaid for all people who rely on the program will make oral health care accessible for millions of people. It's time for policymakers to pay attention and take action: our oral health matters. Add your voice by signing this petition.

Medicaid Should Cover our Whole Bodies: Mouths Included!



Welcome to our New & Returning Members

Andrea Keefer

Maria Rodriguez



Happy Birthday to All our Members who have birthdays in September

(Click here if your birthday should have been listed)

Aida Agraan
Krista Ban
Stefanie Bigler
Laurie Brown
Jacquelyn Durhman
Krista Ethington
Lindsey Evans
Briana Fregia
Jean Friedrichs
Katrina Garrity
Deborah Gentile
Mindi Hall

Caitlin Hanson
Sandi Hilderbrand
Rebecca Horton
Trisha Intintoli
Sheba Jones
Cheryl Kriegel
Jeanette Lalli
Tiffani Malinski
Trisha O'Hehir
Christine Olsen
Amber Lee Patterson
Jannah Piccirillo

Victoria Rodriguez Priscilla Rost Janet Scavarda Annie Sparks LaVenia Thomas Cheryl A. Torivio Christel Trujillo Kimber Willis Stephanie Willis Ryan Wood

Register NOW!

October 14th, 2023 • 9am-12pm

AZDHA GENERAL ASSEMBLY The General Assembly is the ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS

of the Arizona Dental Hygienists' Association. You must be an ADHA/AzDHA member or a dental hygiene student to attend.

Virtual Meeting on **ZOOM**



Arizona

DENTAL HYGIENISTS'
ASSOCIATION

Go to the General Assembly homepage @ https://azdha.org/members-only/

SADHA Announces

Saturday, October 21, 2023 2 incredible topics presented by Anne Guignon RDH, MPH, CFP

Location
Pima Community College Desert Vista Campus,
5901 S. Calle Santa Cruz Room F123
Tucson AZ 85709

Morning and afternoon session for a total of 4 credits - Lunch included

Saddle Raffle: Crown Seating is donating a saddle stool for this event. Raffle tickets are one for \$10 or three for \$25









Click **HERE** for complete flyer and registration

AzDHA Members In Action at Impact 2023









Do you have something to share with other AZDHA members, contact our executive director, Deb Goldman, dgoldman@amgoldman.com

Talk to us Today

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