

DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM COMPETENCIES

Revised 03/03/15

1. Apply the concepts of professionalism, ethics, law, and regulation to the provision and/or support of oral health care services.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of social/cultural diversity issues.
3. Apply basic, dental hygiene, and dental science concepts to the provision and/or support of oral health care services.
4. Provide the dental hygiene process of care which includes assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation components that are both evidence-based and patient-centered.
5. Provide dental hygiene care to children, adolescents, adults, geriatrics, special needs patients, and persons with medically compromising conditions.
6. Implement evidence-based tobacco cessation strategies utilizing the 5 A's (Ask, Advise, Assess, Assist, & Arrange) for all tobacco using patients.
7. Provide dental hygiene care for all types of classifications of periodontal disease, including patients who exhibit moderate to severe periodontal disease.
8. Provide dental hygiene/dental supportive treatment that is both evidence-based and patient-centered.
9. Provide appropriate life support measures for any medical emergencies that may be encountered in dental hygiene practice.
10. Assess, plan, implement, and evaluate community-based oral health programs to promote health and prevent disease among a variety of population groups in diverse settings.
11. Demonstrate interpersonal and group communications skills to effectively interact with diverse population groups.
12. Apply biostatistical principles in the analysis of scientific literature and the design and interpretation of a student-based research project.
13. Design courses, provide didactic and clinical instruction, and implement evaluation strategies in allied dental education programs.
14. Identify career options within the dental hygiene profession.
15. Participate in activities that promote life long learning and professional growth.
16. Engage in intra and interprofessional team building activities that foster collaborative learning.