STATE OF NEW YORK

5727

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 28, 2025

Introduced by Sens. HARCKHAM, COONEY, WEBB -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to local block anesthesia

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 6605-b of the education law, as added by chapter 437 of the laws of 2001 and subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 198 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

§ 6605-b. Dental hygiene restricted local infiltration anesthesia/nitrous oxide analgesia certificate. 1. A dental hygienist shall not administer or monitor nitrous oxide analgesia or local infiltration anesthesia in the practice of dental hygiene without a dental hygiene restricted local infiltration anesthesia/nitrous oxide analgesia certificate and except under the personal supervision of a dentist and in accordance with regulations promulgated by the commissioner. Personal supervision, for purposes of this section, means that the supervising dentist remains in the dental office where the local infiltration anesthesia or nitrous oxide analgesia services are being performed, personally authorizes and prescribes the use of local infiltration anesthesia or nitrous oxide analgesia for the patient and, before dismissal of the patient, personally examines the condition of the patient after the use of local infiltration anesthesia or nitrous oxide analgesia is completed. It is professional misconduct for a dentist to fail to provide the supervision required by this section, and any dentist found guilty of such misconduct under the procedures prescribed in section sixty-five hundred ten of this title shall be subject to the penalties prescribed in section sixty-five hundred eleven of this title.

2. **Dental hygiene block anesthesia certificate. A dental hygienist shall not administer or monitor block anesthesia in the practice of dental hygiene without a dental hygiene restricted local infiltration**

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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anesthesia/nitrous oxide analgesia certificate and a dental hygiene block anesthesia certificate and except under the personal supervision of a dentist authorized by law and in accordance with regulations promulgated by the commissioner. Personal supervision, for purposes of this section, means that the supervising dentist remains in the dental office where the block anesthesia services are being performed, personally authorizes and prescribes the use of block anesthesia for the patient and, before dismissal of the patient, personally examines the condition of the patient after the use of block anesthesia is completed. It is professional misconduct for a dentist to fail to provide the supervision required by this section, and any dentist found guilty of such misconduct under the procedures prescribed in section sixty-five hundred ten of this title shall be subject to the penalties prescribed in section sixty-five hundred eleven of this title.

3. The commissioner shall promulgate regulations establishing standards and procedures for the issuance of such [~~certificate~~] certificates. Such standards shall require completion of an educational program and/or course of training or experience appropriate to each certificate and sufficient to ensure that a dental hygienist is specifically trained in the administration and monitoring of nitrous oxide analgesia and local infiltration anesthesia or is specifically trained in the administration and monitoring of block anesthesia, the possible effects of such use, and in the recognition of and response to possible emergency situations.

[~~3.~~] 4. The fee for a dental hygiene restricted local infiltration anesthesia/nitrous oxide analgesia certificate shall be twenty-five dollars and the fee for a dental hygiene block anesthesia certificate shall be twenty-five dollars and shall be paid on a triennial basis upon renewal of such certificate. A certificate may be suspended or revoked in the same manner as a license to practice dental hygiene.

§ 2. Subdivision 1 of section 6606 of the education law, as amended by chapter 239 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

1. The practice of the profession of dental hygiene is defined as the performance of dental services which shall include removing calcareous deposits, accretions and stains from the exposed surfaces of the teeth which begin at the epithelial attachment and applying topical agents indicated for a complete dental prophylaxis, removing cement, placing or removing rubber dam, removing sutures, placing matrix band, providing patient education, applying topical medication, placing and exposing diagnostic dental X-ray films, performing topical fluoride applications and topical anesthetic applications, polishing teeth, taking medical history, charting caries, taking impressions for study casts, placing and removing temporary restorations, administering and monitoring nitrous oxide analgesia and administering and monitoring local infiltration and administering and monitoring block anesthesia, subject to certification in accordance with section sixty-six hundred five-b of this article, and any other function in the definition of the practice of dentistry as may be delegated by a licensed dentist in accordance with regulations promulgated by the commissioner. The practice of dental hygiene may be conducted in the office of any licensed dentist or in any appropriately equipped school or public institution but must be done either under the supervision of a licensed dentist or, in the case of a registered dental hygienist working for a hospital as defined in article twenty-eight of the public health law, pursuant to a collaborative arrangement with a licensed and registered dentist who has a formal relationship with the same hospital in accordance with regulations promulgated by the department in consultation with the department of

health. Such collaborative arrangement shall not obviate or supersede any law or regulation which requires identified services to be performed under the personal supervision of a dentist. When dental hygiene services are provided pursuant to a collaborative agreement, such dental hygienist shall instruct individuals to visit a licensed dentist for comprehensive examination or treatment.

§ 3. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a law.