

Delegation of Duties for Allied Dental Personnel

(Updated October 2023)

Key:

UDA — Unregistered Dental Auxiliary (Formerly known as 'Dental Assistants') RDA — Registered Dental Assistant RDH — Registered Dental Hygienist

NO Not permitted
 A Assignment
 G General supervision
 D Direct supervision

For definitions of UDA, RDA, RDH, assignment, general supervision, and direct supervision, see below in italics.

Procedure	UDA	RDA	RDH
Operating of dental radiographic equipment. A UDA shall successfully complete a course in dental radiography that is substantially equivalent to a course taught in a program approved by the board pursuant to R 338.11302, R 338.11303, or R 338.11307. A dentist may delegate necessary radiographs for a new patient to a UDA, RDA, or RDH.	A	A	A
Instructing in the use and care of dental appliances.	G	A	A
Taking impressions or digital scans for study and opposing models and matrices for temporary crowns and bridges.	G	A	A
Applying nonprescription topical anesthetic solution.	G	A	A
Trial sizing of orthodontic bands.	G	A	A
Placing, removing, and replacing orthodontic elastic or wire separators, arch wires, elastics, and ligatures.	D	A	A
Dispensing orthodontic aligners.	D	A	A
Removing orthodontic bands, brackets, and adhesives with hand instruments only. Use of high-speed rotary instruments is not in the scope of practice of a UDA, RDA, or RDH.	D	D	A
Polishing assigned teeth with a slow-speed rotary hand piece immediately before an acid etch procedure.	D	A	A
Etching and placing adhesives before placement of orthodontic brackets and attachment for aligners.	D**	G*	G*
Cementing orthodontic bands or initial placement of orthodontic brackets and attachments for aligners.	D**	D	D
Removing excess temporary cement from supragingival surfaces of a tooth with hand instruments only.	NO	A	NO
Removing orthodontic or other cements from supragingival or subgingival surfaces with hand instruments or powered scaling instruments.	NO	NO	A
Providing nutritional counseling for oral health and maintenance.	D**	A	A
Providing commonly accepted medical emergency procedures.	A	A	A
Inspecting and charting the oral cavity using a mouth mirror and radiographs including the classifying of occlusion.	D**	A	A
Placing and removing dental dam.	NO	A	A
Applying anticariogenic agents including, but not limited to, sealants, fluoride varnish, and fluoride applications. UDAs may not place sealants.	D**	A	A
Polishing and contouring of sealants with a slow-speed rotary hand piece immediately following a procedure for occlusal adjustment.	NO	A	A
Fabricating temporary restorations, temporary crowns, and temporary bridges.	NO	A	NO
Placing a nonmetallic temporary or sedative restoration with non-tissue cutting instruments.	NO	A	A
Temporarily cementing and removing temporary crowns and bands.	D**	A	A
Preliminary examination including performing pulp vitality testing.	NO	G*	A
Applying desensitizing agents.	NO	G*	A
Taking impressions for intraoral appliances including bite registrations.	D**	G*	A
Placing and removing matrices and wedges.	NO	G*	NO
Applying cavity liners and bases.	NO	G*	NO
Drying endodontic canals with absorbent points.	NO	G*	NO
Placing and removing nonpinephrine retraction cords or materials.	NO	G*	NO
Removing sutures.	NO	D	A
Applying and dispensing in-office bleaching products.	NO	D	A
Before cementation by the dentist, adjusting and polishing contacts and occlusion of indirect restorations.	NO	G	G
Placing, condensing, and carving amalgam restorations.	NO	D***	NO
Placing Class I resin bonded restorations, occlusal adjustment, finishing and polishing with non-tissue cutting slow-speed rotary hand pieces.	NO	D***	NO
Taking final impressions for indirect restorations and prosthesis including bite registration, intra-oral imaging, and in-office fabrication of restoration.	NO	D***	NO

Assisting and monitoring the administration of nitrous oxide analgesia by a dentist or the RDH. A dentist shall assign these procedures only if the RDA or RDH has successfully completed an approved course that meets the requirements of section 16611(7) of the code, MCL 333.16611, with a minimum of 5 hours of didactic instruction. The levels must be preset by the dentist or RDH and must not be adjusted by the RDA except in case of an emergency, in which case the RDA may turn off the nitrous oxide and administer 100% oxygen. As used in this subdivision, "assisting" means setting up equipment and placing the face mask. Assisting does not include titrating and turning the equipment on or off, except in the case of an emergency in which circumstances the RDA may turn off the nitrous oxide and administer 100% oxygen.	NO	D	D
Removing accretions and stains from the surfaces of the teeth and applying topical agents essential to complete prophylaxis.	NO	NO	A
Root planing, debridement, deep scaling, and removal of calcareous deposits.	NO	NO	A
Polishing and contouring restorations.	NO	NO	A
Charting of the oral cavity, including all the following: periodontal charting, intra oral and extra oral examining of the soft tissue, charting of radiolucencies or radiopacities, existing restorations, and missing teeth.	NO	NO	A
Applying topical anesthetic agents by prescription of the dentist.	NO	NO	A
Removing excess cement from tooth surfaces.	NO	NO	A
Placing subgingival medicaments.	NO	NO	A
Micro abrasion of tooth surfaces to remove defects, pitting, or deep staining.	NO	NO	A
Performing soft tissue curettage with or without a dental laser.	NO	NO	D
Taking digital scans for final restorations or intra-oral appliances.	D	G	G
Administering intra oral block and infiltration anesthesia, or no more than 50% nitrous oxide analgesia, or both, to a patient who is 18 years of age or older if the RDH has met all of the following requirements: (i) Successfully completed an approved course that meets the requirements in section 16611(4) of the code, MCL 333.16611, in the administration of local anesthesia, with a minimum of 15 hours didactic instruction and 14 hours clinical experience. (ii) Successfully completed a state or regional board administered written examination in local anesthesia within 18 months after completion of the approved course in paragraph (i) of this subdivision. (iii) Successfully completed an approved course that meets the requirements in section 16611(4) of the code, MCL 333.16611, in the administration of nitrous oxide analgesia, with a minimum of 4 hours didactic instruction and 4 hours clinical experience. (iv) Successfully completed a state or regional board administered written examination in nitrous oxide analgesia, within 18 months after completion of the approved course in paragraph (iii) of this subdivision. (v) Maintains and provides evidence of current certification in basic or advanced cardiac life support that meets the standards contained in R 338.11705.	NO	NO	D****

A = ASSIGNMENT — means a dentist designates a patient of record upon whom services are to be performed and describes the procedures to be performed. Unless assignment is designated in these rules under general or direct supervision, the dentist need not be physically present in the office at the time the procedures are being performed.

G = GENERAL SUPERVISION — means that a dentist complies with both of the following:

- (i) Designates a patient of record upon whom services are to be performed.
- (ii) Is physically present in the office at the time the procedures are being performed.

D = DIRECT SUPERVISION — means that a dentist complies with all of the following:

- (i) Designates a patient of record upon whom the procedures are to be performed and describes the procedures to be performed.
- (ii) Examines the patient before prescribing the procedures to be performed and upon completion of the procedures.
- (iii) Is physically present in the office at the time the procedures are being performed.

UDA = Unregistered Dental Auxiliary as defined in R 338.11101(1)(oo).

****A dentist shall delegate these procedures to a UDA only if the UDA has successfully completed an in-person or virtual training with performance evaluations on the following functions:**

- Polishing assigned teeth with a slow-speed rotary hand-piece immediately before an acid etch procedure.
- Etching and placing adhesives before placement of orthodontic brackets and attachments for aligners.
- Cementing orthodontic bands or initial placement of orthodontic brackets and attachments for aligners.
- Providing nutritional counseling for oral health and maintenance.
- Inspecting and charting the oral cavity using a mouth mirror and radiographs including the classifying of occlusion.
- Applying anticariogenic agents including, but not limited to, sealants, fluoride varnish, and fluoride applications.
- Temporarily cementing and removing temporary crowns and bands.
- Taking impressions for intraoral appliances including bite registrations.

RDA = Registered dental assistant as defined in R 338.11101.

***A dentist shall assign these procedures to an RDA and RDH only if the RDA has successfully completed an approved course that meets the requirements in section 16611(12) and (13) of the code, MCL 333.16611, and contains a minimum of 10 hours of didactic and clinical instruction.**

*****A dentist shall assign these procedures to an RDA only if the RDA has successfully completed an approved course that meets the requirements in section 16611(11) of the code, MCL 333.16611, and contains a minimum of 20 hours of didactic instruction followed by a comprehensive clinical experience of sufficient duration that validates clinical competence through a criterion based assessment instrument.**

RDH = Registered dental hygienist as defined in R 338.11101.

******The department fee for certification of completion of the requirements is \$10.**

Source: State of Michigan, Administrative Rules for Dentistry