

Auxiliary training requirements for auxiliaries before taking dental radiographs in Kentucky

The Kentucky Board of Dentistry recently has amended the minimal educational requirements for dental auxiliary personnel prior to taking dental radiographs under a dentist's direct supervision (201 KAR 8:130 X-rays by dental assistant – amended 5/10/00). All dental auxiliary personnel must satisfy the following two (2) requirements before taking x-rays in a dental office:

- a. Didactic completion of a course in radiation safety. This can be verified by providing proof of completion of the Radiography Section of the Dental Assistants National Board Examination or attending an approved continuing education course (6 hours minimum) provided by a certified presenter.
- b. Practical
A practicum course in x-ray technique (4 hours minimum). This is verified by a dentist's written documentation of a student's completion of four (4) hours of instruction in dental radiography technique in the practice or by attending a four hour (4) continuing education course in radiography technique approved by the Board before being allowed to expose radiographs.

Auxiliary training requirements for auxiliaries before taking dental radiographs in Ohio

The Ohio revised code for Dental Assistant Radiographers (Sections 4716.12-01 to 4716.12-05) and Dental X-ray Machine Operators (Sections 4715.51 to 4715.55 and 4715.57/58 and 4716.68) also specifies minimal educational requirements.

- a. In Ohio, dental assistants are required to complete an approved seven (7) hour initial training course in dental radiography by a certified presenter, which also includes a clinical experience.
- b. In Ohio, a clinical experience must be completed. This is provided by the supervising and sponsoring dentists and includes taking radiographs and radiographic surveys. This clinical experience may be performed in the dental office where he/she is employed within 60 days following the didactic course. Upon successful completion of the clinical experience a seven hour certificate is awarded.
- c. In Ohio, the dental assistant may apply for the Ohio radiographers license after successful completion of the course and clinical experience.

This course satisfies the didactic requirements of the Kentucky Board of Dentistry. This course has also been approved by the Ohio Board of Dentistry as an initial training course. The course includes:

- Basic principles and concepts of radiation
- Exposure factors and how they affect the radiographic image
- Image receptors and processing of radiographs
- Radiation safety for both patient and operator
- Principles of intraoral (bitewing/periapical/occlusal) imaging and clinical technique
- Radiographic film mounting, labeling and record keeping
- Principles of quality assurance and implementation into clinical practice
- Extraoral radiography

After the course is completed, an examination will be given. Participants who successfully complete the examination will receive a certificate of completion and will be permitted to expose radiographs on patients under the direct supervision of a dentist in accordance with Kentucky dental law.

Speaker

William C. Scarfe, BDS, FRACSD, MS, is associate professor in the Division of Radiology and Imaging Sciences Department of Surgical/Hospital Dentistry at the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. A graduate of the University of Adelaide, South Australia, in 1983, Dr. Scarfe attended graduate school at the University of Texas Dental School at San Antonio and was awarded his certificate and master's degree in dental diagnostic science in 1992. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology and member of numerous other scientific organizations.

Program Information

Time: Registration – 8:30 am; Course – 9 am – 5 pm
Location: DoubleTree Guest Suites Lexington
 2601 Richmond Road
 Lexington, KY
Tuition: \$125 auxiliary
 (Fee includes lunch and breaks)
6 CE hours for Kentucky residents (Scientific/Category B)
Register by May 1, 2009

