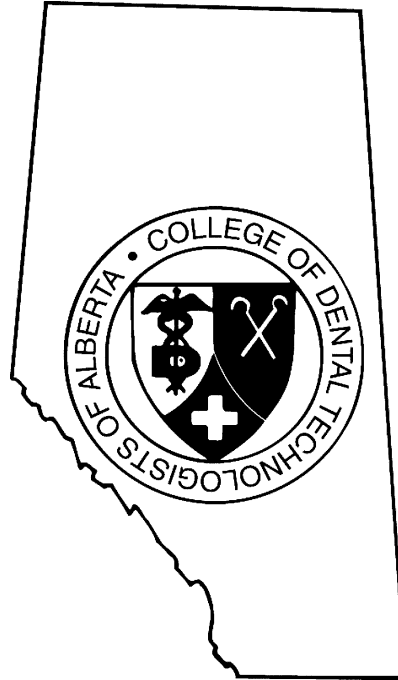


**College of Dental Technologists of Alberta
Code of Ethics**

***College of Dental
Technologists of Alberta***



Code of Ethics

Under the Authority of the
Health Professions Act
Section 133

Introduction: Compliance with this Code of Ethics requires that Dental Technologists and Dental Technicians (Regulated Member(s)) fabricate, duplicate, alter or repair custom made dental appliances in an ethical manner. This Code of Ethics is required under the Health Professions Act. Regulated Members are required to follow this Code of Ethics.

Definition: A code of ethics for a profession sets out the moral and ethical principles that are to guide professional behavior. This Code of Ethics addresses ethical professional behavior in situations specific to dental technology.

Purpose: Provincial legislation has given the privilege of self-governing, self-regulating and self-discipline to the College of Dental Technologists of Alberta (the College). As professionals, Regulated Members must adhere to this code of ethical behaviors, which informs our professional responsibilities in relationship to our clients, our colleagues and society at large.

Duty: It is the responsibility of each Regulated Member to know and understand and adhere to governing laws including the Health Professions Act, Dental Technologists Profession Regulation, Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics.

RESPONSIBILITIES TO CLIENTS

1. **Responsibilities to Clients:**

A Regulated Member has a duty of service to Clients. This responsibility must include the delivery of safe quality care that is competent and within the bounds of clinical and technical circumstances presented by Clients. Quality care is the primary consideration of the Regulated Member. A Regulated Member must never practice beyond the level of their own competence.

2. **Choice of Clients:**

A Regulated Member has the right to refuse a Client before any services are provided. Notwithstanding this, the Regulated Member must not deny services based on race, religious beliefs, colour, gender, physical disability, mental disability, age, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, source of income, family status or sexual orientation or any other enumerated ground set forth in Alberta human rights legislation. A Regulated Member may, however, refuse for other legitimate reasons such as resource considerations, an inability to provide the service requested or billing concerns.

3. **Competence**

The Regulated Member must practice the art and science of dental technology to the best of their ability, strive to keep their knowledge and skills current and avoid undertaking to provide professional services in which they lack expertise, unless they have consulted with and obtained assistance from an appropriate colleague.

RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE PROFESSION

1. **Personal Conduct:**

A Regulated Member must:

- (a) recognize that self-governance of their profession is a privilege and they have a responsibility to merit the retention of this privilege;
- (b) collaborate with the Regulated Members, members of other dental professions and the public;
- (c) apply ethical and appropriate accounting and billing practices;
- (d) refrain from making disparaging comments to Clients about the qualifications or procedures of a colleague or any other members of the dental care team, rather, such criticism or concerns should be directed to the appropriate professional body;
- (e) maintain Client autonomy, informed consent, treat Clients with dignity and respect and maintain Client confidentiality; and
- (f) refrain from any abuse, bullying, harassment or violence directed to any Regulated Member, Clients, College Council Member or Committee Member, College Staff or any person designated to assist the College pursuant to the Health Professions Act.

2. **Mutual Support:**

A Regulated Member must follow this Code of Ethics and encourage other Regulated Members to do likewise.

3. **Use of Professional Title:**

A Regulated Member must represent themselves to the public in a manner that reflects only their designation approved by the Health Professions Act.

4. **Contractual Services:**

The Regulated Member by entering into a contract with an organization or other party involving the practice of dental technology neither reduces their professional responsibilities nor transfers any part of these responsibilities to that organization or other party.

5. **Conflict of Interest**

A Regulated Member has a responsibility to their Clients, to recognize and avoid conflicts of interest. A conflict of interest is a set of circumstances that create a risk that professional judgment or actions regarding a primary interest to the Client will be unduly influenced by a secondary interest.

Definitions

Abuse: Means a single incident or series of incidents occurring against a person that is known, or reasonably ought to be known to be unwelcome including, but not limited to, an act of physical contact without consent; physical contact with intent to harm; subjection to non-consensual sexual contact; activity or behavior including attention based on sex or gender, or sexual advances; aggressive or violent physical or verbal behavior; or verbal or written threats causing fear, bullying, cyber bullying, intimidation, or emotional harm.

Bullying: Is any persistent and deliberate conduct on the part of one or more people that is objectively hostile, intimidating, or insulting in nature and that reasonably causes another person to feel belittled, humiliated, intimidated, isolated, or undermined. Bullying may involve verbal, non-verbal, written, and/or electronic communication.

Clients: A Dentist, Denturist, any other authorized health professional, patients and members of the public.

College: The governing body of the College of Dental Technologists of Alberta as set forth in the Health Professions Act of Alberta.

Harassment: Means a form of discrimination against a person based on, but not limited to, the following grounds: race, religious belief, colour, gender, physical or mental disability, body size and weight, age, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, source of income, family status, or sexual orientation. Harassment is inappropriate, unwelcome or coercive behavior based on one or more of the above grounds which occurs by one or more individuals towards another, where that behavior is known, or reasonably ought to be known, to be unwanted or unwelcome. Harassment may be a single incident or series of incidents and may take verbal, written, graphic or physical forms.

Regulation: Dental Technologists Profession Regulation, Alberta Regulation 243/2004.

Violence: Is any form of assault or threatened assault committed by one or more people against a person.

References

This Standard of Practice for the Profession of Dental Technologists

College of Dental Technologists of Alberta (2011) Standards of Practice and Related Policies, Directives and Guidelines Edmonton, Alberta: CDTA and AH&W

College of Dental Technologists of Alberta (2011) Code of Ethics
Edmonton, Alberta: CDTA

Health Professions Act of Alberta (2000) as amended Government of Alberta

Dental Technologist Profession Regulation (2004) Government of Alberta: Alberta Regulation 243/2004 of the Health Professions Act

Resources
Standards of Practice for the Profession of Dental Technologists

Alberta Dental Association and College (2004) Standards of Practice Edmonton, Alberta

Alberta Dental Assistants of Alberta (2005) Standards of Practice Edmonton, Alberta

College of Alberta Denturists (2005) Standards of Practice Edmonton, Alberta

College of Registered Dental Hygienists of Alberta (2007) Standards of Practice Edmonton, Alberta