

## Fall 2018 Newsletter

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### 2019 WSSO Annual Meeting

- **February 08, 2019**

at Meydenbauer Convention Center in Bellevue, WA

- Featured Speakers:
  - **Dr. Ben Pliska** "Sleep disordered breathing and orthodontics"
  - **Dr. Greg Huang** "Evidence in every day practice"
  - **Dr Bracken Killpack** "Policies which impact orthodontist and the WSDA"
  - **Dr. Sean Murphy** "Common misadventures for orthodontic specialist"
  - **Dr. Geoff Greenlee**

Hands-on debonding training session

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### Legislative Changes

#### Recent dental rule changes 2018



- **Dentist CE requirements** [WAC 246-817-440](#). Starting January 1, 2019 the CE reporting period will change from annually (21 hours) to every three years (63 hours). Please refer to the latest newsletter from DQAC for more details.
- **Dentist suicide prevention education-** [WAC 246-817-441](#) Starting August 1, 2020 a suicide prevention education will be required for every dentist. WSSO is

working on providing these courses in the future for all our members. Meanwhile you can find courses on the Department of Health website.

## Dental rule changes on 2017 include

- **DA and EFDA delegation rules-** [WAC 246-817-510](#), [246-817-520](#), [246-817-525](#), [246-817-540](#), and [246-817-545](#). The updated scope of practice for registered dental assistants (DAs) and licensed expanded function dental auxiliaries (EFDAs) requires dentist's **CLOSE** supervision. There will be a hands-on lecture and training session being held at the next WSSO annual meeting on Feb. 8th, 2019.

## Dental rules in progress

Please visit the [DOH Website](#) and send any comments to [Jennifer Santiago](#).  
Your opinion matters!

- **Dental hygienist delegation rules** - [WAC 246-817-550](#) The dental commission considered a rule request in July 2017 to allow dental hygienists to perform the same tasks under GENERAL supervision of a dentist that dental assistants typically complete under CLOSE supervision. **WSSO recommended the following tasks should be performed by dental hygienist under CLOSE supervision** of a licensed dentist instead of GENERAL supervision. This matter will be discussed by DQAC on Oct. 26th, 2018. WSSO will continue to monitor and participate in this rule change
  1. Select and fit orthodontic bands, try in orthodontic appliances prior to the dentist cementing or checking the appliance;
  2. Prepare teeth for the bonding of orthodontic appliances;
  3. Bond attachments for clear removable orthodontic aligners;
  4. Fit and adjust headgear.
- **Dental specialty representation** - [WAC 246-817-420](#) The dental commission considered a rules petition requesting recognition [the American Board of Dental Specialties Boards](#) /areas of practice specialty. The current rule lists 9 [American Dental Association-recognized specialties](#) only. Additional specialty areas in dentistry could be considered, such as Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry, Oral Medicine, Orofacial Pain, and Dental Anesthesiology. The Dental Continuing Competency Committee has held open public meetings with stakeholders, and discussing rule modifications.

WSSO have provided firm opinions and comments on this matter. It also secured legal fund support from AAO so that Mr. Sean Murphy, the Associate General Counsel of AAO, spoke at the DQAC meeting on Mar. 9th, 2018. The current rule states that a dentist is a dental specialist if "he/she is entitled to such specialty designation under the guidelines or requirements for specialties approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and the Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association, or such guidelines or

requirements as subsequently amended and approved by the DQAC, or other such organization recognized by the DQAC." American Board of Dental Specialties Boards are not associated with ADA or the Department of Education.

WSSO suggests a licensed dentist seeking specialty recognition must have successfully completed a post-doctoral program in a specialty area of dentistry consisting of at least two full-time years and which is accredited by an accreditation agency that is recognized by the United States Department of Education. This matter will be discussed by DQAC again on Oct. 26th, 2018.

- **Infection Control** On October 2018 DQAC proposed an update on the dental infection control standards to prevent disease transmission in oral healthcare.

**DQAC is currently accepting stakeholder comments on proposed dental infection control rule.**

WSSO encourages our members to [review the proposed rules](#) and provide feedback to the Commission.

Please contact [Jennifer Santiago](#) at [Jennifer.santiago@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Jennifer.santiago@doh.wa.gov) . **Comments need to be made ASAP.** The next meeting which will consider the comments will take place **Friday, Dec 7th at 9:35.** We need to **flood** the commission with comments.

The proposed rules include new requirements such as:

- Sterilization of low-speed hand piece motors after use on a patient (including extra orally)
- Quarterly testing of water delivery systems for acceptable water quality
- Disposable or single used items shall not be reprocessed (mirrors, burs, IPR strips) we believe this puts too much power in the hand of the manufactures and will encourage them to label more things single use and make less items that are able to be sterilized.
- Bag or wrap contaminated instruments in packages, containers, or cassettes in prep for sterilization for all instruments (including non-critical, extra oral use)
- Storage of sterile items in packages, containers in a covered or closed area
- Use of HVE whenever possible in all clinical situations expected to produce aerosol or splatter. A saliva ejector does not count as HVE (High Volume Evacuation.)
- Infection prevention standards education
- Ensuring Personal protective equipment whenever potential for contact with body fluids
- 1 hr infection control yearly for staff
- Signs in office with cough protocol
- Mask for waiting room for potentially infectious patients
- Spore testing weekly/log

Please take the time to write a letter to the commission on these important changes. They will be extremely costly to our offices when we use many non-critical instruments, and are typically dealing with non-infectious patients.

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## Welcome New WSSO Members!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members of the WSSO! We look forward to meeting you soon and having you play a positive role in our society!

- Rebecca Schnitt
  - Mahadeep Virk
  - Brian Wilde
  - Alissa Borda
  - Gregory Brown
  - Chirag Chawan
  - Fedora Katz
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## WSSO Board of Directors

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[Link to Additional Resource](#)

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## Important Dates/Events

- WSSO Annual Meeting: February 08, 2019, Seattle WA
- PCSO Spring session : March 1-2, 2019. Las Vegas, NV
- PCSO Annual Meeting October 3rd - 6th, 2019. Honolulu, Hawaii