

## AI0500 - DENTAL ASSISTANTS

### 1.0 PURPOSE

To ensure patient safety by ensuring the appropriate risk and competency management of externally employed dental assistants (certified and non-certified) working in Interior Health (IH) facilities.

### 2.0 DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
Dental Assistant	Dental assistants are those individuals trained and employed by a dentist employer. Dental assistants are not regulated or certified.
Certified Dental Assistants (CDA)	Certified Dental Assistants (CDAs) complete formal education and their skills are examined using a testing mechanism. CDA skills and patient care procedures encompass all the skills of the dental assistant plus intra oral procedures. CDAs are regulated and certified to perform specific services by the College of Dental Surgeons of BC.

### 3.0 POLICY

All dentists and oral maxillofacial surgeons will submit signed and completed license agreements (dental services) which specify the requirements that shall be in place to provide necessary liability coverage for their Dental Assistant/Certified Dental Assistant employees providing dental care in IH facilities.

### 4.0 PROCEDURES

Each dentist and oral maxillofacial surgeon providing dental care to IH patients will complete the [License Agreement \(Dental Services\)](#) and submit to IH Medical Administration. The original signed agreements will be retained in IH Medical Administration with copies provided to the respective dentist/surgeon and site(s) Medical Director and Risk Management departments.

As part of the credentialing process for new dentists or oral maxillofacial surgeons, the relevant Medical Director (or Chief of Staff) will ensure that this agreement is signed and submitted to IH Medical Administration.

### 5.0 REFERENCES

College of Dental Surgeons of British Columbia website ([www.cdsbc.org](http://www.cdsbc.org)); faq\_4.asp

### 6.0 ENDORSED BY

HAMAC – October 22, 2010

Policy Sponsor: Vice President, Medicine and Quality		1 of 1
Policy Steward: Surgical Services Clinical Practice Leader		
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