

DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES

Colorado Dental Board

DENTISTS & DENTAL HYGIENISTS

3 CCR 709-1

[Editor's Notes follow the text of the rules at the end of this CCR Document.]

Rule XXIV. Use of Lasers

(Adopted January 22, 2015, Effective March 30, 2015; Amended April 30, 2015, Effective June 30, 2015; Amended April 28, 2016, Effective June 30, 2016; Amended May 3, 2018, Effective July 3, 2018.)

- A. The requirements in this rule do not apply to use of non-adjustable laser units for purposes of diagnosis and curing.
- B. Only a dentist may employ-use a laser capable of the removal of hard and/or soft tissue in the treatment of a dental patient, except for incidental removal of granulation and degenerated tissue from the gingival wall of the periodontal pocket.
- C. Laser use by a dental hygienist can only be performed under the indirect or direct supervision of a dentist, and must be limited to pocket disinfection at settings that preclude hard and soft tissue removal, except for incidental gingival curettage within the dental hygiene scope of practice.
- D. A licensee who is a laser user or supervises a laser user must first successfully complete training that covers at a minimum six (6) hours of laser physics, safety, and appropriate use prior to utilizing the laser. A licensee must also complete at least two (2) hours of live and interactive training that addresses operation of the specific laser(s) utilized in the practice.
 - 1. Training must be obtained through a course provided or recognized by any of the following organizations (or a successor organization):
 - a. A Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) accredited institution;
 - b. The American Dental Association (ADA) Continuing Education Recognition Program (CERP);
 - c. The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) Program Approval for Continuing Education (PACE); or
 - d. The American Medical Association (AMA).
 - 2. A licensee utilizing a laser, other than what is described in section A of this rule, must maintain evidence of training as required in section D(1) of this rule. Upon request of the Board, the licensee must submit evidence of such training.
- E. All lasers must be used in accordance with accepted safety guidelines.
- F. When utilizing a laser pursuant to this rule, at a minimum, the following must be documented in the patient's record:

1. Type of laser, including wavelength;
 2. Settings used (pulse or continuous wave, power setting);
 3. ~~Local Type of anesthesia-anesthetic~~ used, if any; ~~and~~
 4. ~~Size of fiber, tip or aperture of tip; and~~
 54. Procedure attempted/performed (with details to include hard or soft tissue removal).
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Editor's Notes

History

Rules XVII, XXVI eff. 07/01/2007.

Rules XXVI, XXIX, XXX eff. 12/31/2007.

Rule XXVI eff. 11/30/2008.

Rule III eff. 05/30/2009.

Rule III eff. 12/30/2009.

Rules III, XIV - XXX eff. 03/30/2010.

Rules I - IX, XI - XIII, XV - XXII eff. 12/30/2011.

Rules I, II, III, IX, XI, XII, XIII, XVI (repealed), XXIII, and XXIV eff. 03/30/2015.

Rules XIII, XIV, and XXIV eff. 06/30/2015.

Rule XXIII eff. 03/16/2016.

Rules I, III, IV, V, VI (repealed), VII (repealed), VIII (repealed), IX, X, XIV, XV, XVI, XVIII, XIX (repealed), XX, XXI, XXII (repealed), XXIII, XXIV, and XXV eff. 06/30/2016.

Rule XVII eff. 09/14/2016