



## **Performance of Soft Tissue Curettage and Administration of Local Anesthesia by Registered Dental Hygienists in Alternative Practice**

Beginning April 1, 2022, Registered Dental Hygienists in Alternative Practice may perform soft tissue curettage and administer local anesthesia to their patients under specific conditions as outlined in California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 1118 which states:

A licensed registered dental hygienist in alternative practice (RDHAP) may perform soft tissue curettage and administer local anesthesia in accordance with the provisions of this section. The RDHAP shall:

- (a) Consult with a California licensed dentist to authorize the use of soft tissue curettage or local anesthesia for each patient to be treated by the RDHAP in local anesthesia or soft tissue curettage. The consultation shall be documented in the patient's chart and include, without limitation, the date of consultation, name of consulting dentist, and the consulting dentist's California license number.
- (b) Have the physical presence on the premises of one additional individual trained in basic life support and qualified to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation during an emergency when soft tissue curettage or local anesthesia administration will take place. For the purpose of section 1926.01(b) "immediately available" means physical presence.
- (c) Have access to portable oxygen administration equipment to assist with administration of basic life support.

If you have any questions on this issue, please contact us.

Thank you,  
Dental Hygiene Board of California