

Newsletter

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

November 2024



Table of Contents

Announcements.....	Page 1
Agency News and Survey.....	Page 2
Dental Practice	Page 3
Anesthesia Information.....	Page 3
Recently Adopted Rules and UTSA Survey.....	Page 4
Board and Staff photos.....	Page 5



A Message from the Presiding Officer, Dr. David H. Yu

Collateral Outcome

Dental healthcare professionals are resilient. We just recovered from supply chain shortages from a pandemic. Our adaptability is best exemplified by when we faced drug shortages and our deep understanding of pharmacology allowed us to modify drug regimens as needed. However, it's rare that we've had to adjust our sedation techniques. This time, it was an act of nature. In September 2024, Hurricane Helene caused severe flooding at Baxter International's factory in North Carolina, wiping out 60% of the IV fluid supply in a single event. The resulting shortages impacted all surgical healthcare settings, from hospitals to dental practices. Organizations like The American Dental Society of Anesthesiology have provided guidance on how to maintain safe sedation practices during these shortages. Recommendations include encouraging patient hydration up to two hours before sedation and using IV solutions in sterile syringes for drug flushes. While the resilience of Texas dental professions is something to take pride in, it is also imperative that these remedies follow the Dental Practice Act and the rule set forth by the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners.

Another approach is to forego parenteral sedation altogether, opting instead for oral sedation, with or without nitrous oxide. This reminds us of the guidelines surrounding Halcion (Triazolam), the most commonly used oral sedation drug in dentistry due to its short half-life, low risk of respiratory depression, and amnesic properties. Although effective, Halcion is classified as a sedative-hypnotic rather than an anxiolytic and is not approved for use in children. This highlights the importance of staying knowledgeable and up-to-date about the drugs we administer.

It's important to note that under §108.7(16), dentists must hold at least a Level 1 permit (minimal sedation permit) to prescribe or administer Halcion (Triazolam). Furthermore, according to the standard of care rule, Halcion should be administered in-office to ensure patient safety. Allowing patients to self-administer Triazolam increases the risk of accidents during transit due to its hypnotic and CNS-depressant effects. There have been cases of patients driving under the influence of Halcion or experiencing fall injuries after self-administration. Rule §108.7(16) elucidates the need to monitor the patient in a safe, controlled environment. The regulations are not meant to overburden practitioners but to address public safety concerns.

Beyond this rule, familiarize yourself with the TSBDE rules and regulations, especially around anesthesia. Bookmark the TSBDE website for easy access to updates, renewal information, and other resources essential for your practice. This will be your reference in every aspect of your practice, updates, renewal information and contacts to support your success. By reading this newsletter and staying current on your license and its responsibilities, you've already demonstrated a commitment to your license. As we continue to update our practice because of scientific evidence and advancements in our profession, it must be done within the confines of the TSBDE rules.

Best wishes now and during the holidays,

David H. Yu, DDS, MS
Presiding Officer, Texas State Board of Dental Examiners



AGENCY NEWS

NEW PHONE NUMBERS

(737) 363-2320

TSBDE has a new phone number! Please call the main line and follow the directory prompts.

You can also reach us via email! [Agency Contacts](#)

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

TSBDE will be closed the following dates:

November 27-29th

December 24-27th

January 1-2nd

Please keep holiday closure dates in mind if your license is up for renewal. You have the option to apply for your renewal up to sixty (60) days before the license expiration date.



The Texas State Board of Dental Examiners (TSBDE) would like to connect with Texas educators and hear updates from dental, hygiene and dental assisting programs. The board invites a representative from your university, school or program to provide a brief ten (10) minute presentation at an upcoming meeting. Board members are interested in learning about class sizes, curriculum, graduation statistics, educational concerns, and how the board can better assist educators. The board will schedule two representatives to speak per meeting on a first come, first served basis. Speakers have the option to attend in person or virtually. The TSBDE board meets on a quarterly basis.

Four board meetings have openings: Feb. 21, 2025, May 2, 2025, August 8, 2025 or Nov. 7, 2025

If you are interested in addressing the board or if you have additional questions, please contact Wendy Richardson at wrichardson@tsbde.texas.gov. Please provide your name, title, school/program affiliation and your preferred Board meeting date.

The Texas State Board of Dental Examiners (TSBDE) is always striving to improve our operations and we could use your help! Let us know how we are doing and how we can get better in the future. Please visit our customer satisfaction survey in the link below to provide your input to TSBDE leadership. Please note, your response will be completely anonymous. We would love to hear your opinion and ideas! Thank you for your time and consideration.

[TSBDE Customer Satisfaction Survey](#)



DENTAL PRACTICE

REGISTERED DENTAL ASSISTANT REGISTRATIONS

Did you know that RDAs are required to display a current registration in each office where they provide service for which a registration is required? This is a requirement pursuant to [TSBDE rule 114.2](#). Duplicate registrations certificates may be printed by logging into your [licensing account](#).

ADAA CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to the American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA) who commemorated their 100th anniversary by hosting a celebration on November 9th in Irving, Texas! Juliette Southard founded the ADAA in 1923 to promote professional development and unify dental assistants across the United States. ADAA is the oldest and largest professional association for dental assistants. Congratulations to ADAA!

ANESTHESIA

UPDATE: LOCAL INFILTRATION ANESTHESIA (LIA) PERMIT

TSBDE began accepting LIA permit applications on September 1, 2024. Dental hygienists must obtain a Texas permit to administer local infiltration anesthesia in the state of Texas. Hygienists may apply for a permit through their licensing account. For additional information, please visit: [Administration of Local Anesthesia](#)

UTILIZING A CRNA FOR SEDATION

Reminder! A dentist may not supervise a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) unless the dentist holds a permit for the sedation procedure being performed, pursuant to [TSBDE rule 110.3](#).

The information expressed in the newsletter is created or compiled by agency staff. It does not reflect the official position of the board or its members, and it should not be construed as legal advice.

Board Meeting November 8, 2024

Proposed and Adopted Rules

Adopted Rules [102.1](#)

Proposed Rules --please check the tsbde.texas.gov website for updates

The following survey is sent on behalf of:

Dr. David Yu, Presiding Officer of the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners

Dr. Scott Staffor, Associate Dean of Patient Care, UT Dentistry

Dr. Enas Bsoul, Assistant Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology, UT Dentistry

Your participation is greatly appreciated!



Dear Dentists,

Dr. Brian Ross of the UT Health San Antonio School of Dentistry is conducting a research survey (IRB ID: STUDY00000706) to evaluate Cone Beam CT utilization & radiology interpretation amongst dentists and is asking for your participation.

The survey is 17 questions and should take no more than 5 minutes of your time to complete. The data collected is anonymous and will be reported in aggregate.

The researcher is seeking to assess radiologist utilization for CBCT interpretation. Your participation is voluntary and appreciated. Your decision to participate or not will have no impact on your academic standing or employment status.

We appreciate your participation in this study. If you are interested, please follow the link or QR code below:

[Survey link](#)



If you have questions, you may contact Dr. Brian Ross
at rossbj@uthscsa.edu

Happy Holidays



TSBDE Board with members of the UT Pre-Dental Society, November 2024



TSBDE staff celebrate Halloween, October 2024