



alberta dental
association & college

Standard of Practice:

Facial Esthetic Therapies and Adjunctive Procedures

Introduction

The Standard of Practice: Facial Esthetic Therapies and Adjunctive Procedures applies to dentists who are administering Schedule 1 drugs such as neuromodulators (e.g. Botulinum Toxin Type A), dermal fillers, other agents (injected and/or topical) and adjunctive non-surgical and/or surgical therapies used to provide comprehensive therapeutic and esthetic oral and maxillofacial treatment for the restoration of a patient's appearance in form and function or to enhance their appearance, or both.

The Alberta Dental Association and College will issue a certificate based on the level of competency achieved for all dentists providing the levels of treatment described by this Standard. The Alberta Dental Association and College will maintain a list of approved programs at each level.

The Alberta Dental Association and College will review educational programs, teaching faculty, and/or training materials to determine if those educational and training programs and faculty satisfy the requirements of this Standard. All educational program faculty must be registered in the province of Alberta to provide such level of training, if such program is provided in the province of Alberta.

Dentists are advised that the core competencies and treatment levels are not all encompassing. In particular, bruxism and myofascial pain and dysfunction are complex and distinctly different diagnoses that may require multiple treatment levels that include but are not limited to neuromodulators.

Dentists must also realize that facial esthetic therapies and adjunctive procedures are constantly changing and dynamic in their application. The dentist is cautioned that new and emerging therapies may not be described or contained within this Standard. Thus, dentists are required to consult with the Alberta Dental Association and College before administering any such new or emerging therapies or adjunctive procedure for both esthetic and non-esthetic therapies.

Any prescription or administration of the Schedule 1 drugs, esthetic procedures or therapies discussed herein without acquiring the appropriate level of training and without adhering to this Standard is not permitted; failure to comply with the this Standard may constitute unprofessional conduct (per Health Professions Act 1(1)(pp)(ii)).

Dentists are advised that although neuromodulators (like most pharmacological agents) have many off-label uses supported by research, the limitation of procedures to those encompassed by this Standard and the dentist's training remains paramount. Further, patients must be specifically advised when an off-label use is being suggested and a discussion of all associated risks must occur.

Standard of Practice

1. Dentists may only prescribe or administer the agents or provide the adjunctive therapeutic and esthetic procedures in this Standard under the following circumstances (which hold whether the dentist is the primary care provider or a treating dentist via referral):

- The patient is a “patient of record” within their dental practice, with full documentation and workup, including history, clinical examination, and photographs;
- The esthetic or adjunctive treatment is part of a comprehensive dentofacial/maxillofacial treatment plan;
- The patient has received a comprehensive dental/head and neck examination and treatment of primary dental disease is ongoing or completed;
- The patient has completed a full and current dental and medical health history and has been assessed to be a suitable candidate for the recommended treatment or prescription;
- The patient’s emotional health has been assessed by the dentist and their motivation, goals, concerns and hopes for treatment have been established and documented;
- Informed consent has been obtained for all treatments, prescriptions and/or therapies including a discussion with the patient with respect to benefits, risks, post-operative care, sequelae and potential complications;
- The dentist is familiar with all other potential treatment and adheres to their level of training and expertise when providing appropriate therapies/care;
- The dentist is responsible for continual reassessment and follow-up; and
- The dentist is familiar with the limitations and emergency situations that may occur with the administration of any agent administered or therapy provided.

2. Treatment Levels

Level 1: Applied Anatomy Review and Introduction to Neuromodulators

This mandatory review will refresh and strengthen the dentist’s knowledge of head and neck anatomy, its relevancy to the administration and pharmacology of neuromodulators (e.g. Botulinum Toxin Type A) and to other esthetic and non-esthetic therapies and procedures.

Level 1 does not authorize the dentist to provide any patient treatment in administering neuromodulators, dermal fillers, or other esthetic pharmaceutical agents or adjunctive therapies.

Level 2: Basic Neuromodulators: Upper Face and Bruxism Treatment

Level 2 will allow the use of neuromodulators for the superficial muscles of the upper face and for bruxism treatment of the dentist’s own patients. This level is limited to: the frontalis muscle, the glabellar complex, procerus, the corrugators supercilii, and orbicularis oculi. For the treatment of bruxism, this level is limited to injection of temporalis and masseter.

Level 3: Advanced Neuromodulators: Mid-Face and Lower Face/Neck Regions and Myofascial Pain and Dysfunction Treatment

Level 3 will allow the dentist to provide advanced neuromodulator administration for mid and lower face and neck regions and for myofascial pain and dysfunction

treatment. In addition to those muscles in level 2, this level allows dentists to treat: levator labii superioris alaeque nasi, levator labii superioris, nasalis, zygomaticus major and minor, risorius, levator and depressor anguli oris, buccinator, orbicularis oris, levator and depressor labii superioris, mentalis and platysma. Treatment protocols for migraine and myofascial pain and dysfunction may be undertaken at this level if encompassed by the dentist's training.

Level 4: 4a - Dermal Fillers: Basic Facial Dermal Fillers
4b - Dermal Fillers: Advanced Facial Dermal Fillers
4N - Neuromodulators for Deep Muscles of Mastication

Level 4 will introduce the dentist to:

- 4a - Dermal fillers – the need for and use of dermal fillers for the treatment of the naso-labial fold, lip augmentation, and gingival augmentation.
- 4b - Dermal fillers – the need for and use of dermal fillers in other areas of the face, including but not limited to: malar enhancement, treatment of the nasojugal groove, and the treatment of glabellar, laugh and marionette lines.
- 4N - Neuromodulator treatment for deep muscles of mastication – review of deep muscle injections for temporomandibular joint dysfunction/ Myofascial Pain Dysfunction which includes deep muscles of mastication (e.g. medial and lateral pterygoid muscles).

The 4a/b and 4N streams are distinct and complex entities; dentists must only provide treatments specific to their training and expertise, in either 4a/b or 4N or both, and specific to their Alberta Dental Association and College certification. Dentists must complete level 4a before undertaking level 4b training.

Level 5: Advanced Non-Surgical Esthetic Procedures

This level covers advanced non-surgical esthetic procedures for qualified Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons only.

This level may include but is not limited to: extraoral lasers, intense pulsed light (IPL) dermal therapies, dermabrasion, chemical peels, hair removal, injectable fat dissolving agents (eg. Deoxycholic acid) and eyelash growth stimulating agents.

Level 6: Advanced Surgical Esthetic Procedures

This level covers advanced surgical esthetic procedures for qualified Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons only.

This level may include but is not limited to: soft tissue/hard tissue esthetic procedures for the head and neck region, hair transplants, rhinoplasty, blepharoplasty, face lifts, liposuction, and fat and blood product transfers.

3. Dentists cannot assign the administration of neuromodulators, dermal fillers, other agents (injected and/or topical) and adjunctive non-surgical and/or surgical therapies used to provide comprehensive therapeutic and esthetic oral and maxillofacial treatment for the restoration of a patient's appearance in form and function or to enhance their appearance, or both:

- a. to any staff member or employee unless they are registered with a professional regulatory authority within the Province of Alberta that allows for this restricted activity
 - i. the staff member or employee must meet the requirements of the regulatory authority to administer, formulate or dispense such agents, therapies or procedures.
 - b. to another registered Alberta healthcare provider unless the dentist delegating the procedure is also authorized by the Alberta Dental Association and College to provide the treatment/procedures assigned. A healthcare provider administering treatment assigned on a dentist's behalf in a dental clinical setting must at minimum conform in all aspects to this Standard of Practice and the Alberta Dental Association and College Standard of Practice for Infection Prevention and Control, and are additionally bound by any relevant higher Standard of their regulatory authority.
4. Dentists are not permitted to provide any level of treatment in stand-alone or mobile spas, esthetic studios, hair salons, fairs or expositions, or private residences or similar. These procedures are adjunctive to the regular provision of dental services and as such must be provided in a recognized and approved dental facility/clinical setting on patients of record.
 5. The dentist is responsible to refer cases whose complexity exceeds their training to appropriately trained healthcare professionals.
 6. Dentists are obligated to maintain continuity of care for their patients outside of office hours and to provide emergency care for their patients. If this obligation cannot be met, it is the dentist's responsibility to arrange such care with a practitioner of equivalent or higher qualifications. This responsibility extends to patients receiving the treatment levels discussed herein.
 7. Dentists wishing to administer the agents or provide the adjunctive therapeutic and esthetic procedures outlined in this Standard are required to apply to the Alberta Dental Association and College for each individual level of treatment.
 8. Dentists must be in possession of the appropriate Alberta Dental Association and College certificate before providing that level of treatment to their patients regardless of certificates issued by educational program providers.
 9. Dentists are required to complete approved, structured and gated levels of training before comprehensive use of neuromodulators, dermal fillers and esthetic therapies or procedures is permitted.
 10. A dentist cannot move to a subsequent level of treatments/therapies without completing the requirements of the previous level.
 11. It is the dentist's responsibility to ensure that any education or training program undertaken in preparation for prescribing or administering any Schedule 1 drug, or to provide any related adjunctive esthetic or therapeutic procedures, is approved by the Alberta Dental Association and College.
 12. Before a dentist can proceed to the next level of treatment they must have at least 20 documented treatments on different patients, including pre and post-treatment

photographs, during a minimum one-year period of providing the current approved level of treatment to demonstrate substantial experience and competency within the level. Multiple treatments on the same patient do not count towards the 20 patient minimum.

13. Dentists are advised that records, such as pre and post-treatment photographs, which are above and beyond usual diagnostic records, are mandatory when providing these levels of treatment.
14. Dentists must demonstrate evidence of continuing education and core competencies in the field of facial esthetics and adjunctive procedures to maintain current standards and level of competency.
15. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons may provide any procedures contained herein, so long as their training encompassed said procedures.
16. Treatment Level 5 and 6 are restricted treatment levels that only Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons may provide.
17. The dentist must maintain and have all records of patients treated available at all times if a review of these records are requested by the Alberta Dental Association and College.