

REPORT OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON DENTAL ANESTHESIOLOGY EDUCATION TO THE COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION

Committee Chair: Dr. Joseph Giovannitti. Committee Members: Dr. Gerard Kugel, Dr. Mana Saraghi; Dr. Shashi Unnithan, and Dr. Philip Yen. Guest (Open Session Only): Ms. Erin Baker, executive director, American Society of Dentists Anesthesiologists, attended the policy portion of the meeting. Staff Member: Ms. Peggy Soeldner, manager, Advanced Dental Education, CODA. The meeting of the Review Committee on Dental Anesthesiology Education (DENTANES RC) was held on January 12, 2022 via a virtual meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO DENTAL ANESTHESIOLOGY EDUCATION

Progress Report on the 2021 Validity and Reliability Study of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Anesthesiology (p. 1500): The Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Anesthesiology (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1500**) was adopted by the Commission on Dental Accreditation at its January 25, 2007 meeting for immediate implementation.

According to the Commission's Policy on Assessing the Validity and Reliability of the Accreditation Standards, "the validity and reliability of accreditation standards will be assessed after they have been in effect for a period of time equal to the minimum academic length of the accredited program plus three years." Thus, the validity and reliability of the standards for a one-year program will be assessed after four (4) years. Significant revisions were made to the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Anesthesiology in 2012 and 2015. Therefore, the validity and reliability study for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Anesthesiology was initiated in the Spring of 2021.

At its Summer 2021 meeting, the Review Committee on Advanced Education in General Dentistry, General Practice Residency, Dental Anesthesiology, Oral Medicine, and Orofacial Pain (AGDOO RC) conducted an initial review of the results of the validity and reliability survey, as well as written comments gathered (**Appendix 2, Policy Report p. 1500**). As a result of initial analysis and discussion of the validity and reliability survey data and written comments, the AGDOO RC concluded that further study of the survey data and review of the Accreditation Standards is warranted. In addition, the AGDOO RC believed that the newly formed Review Committee on Dental Anesthesiology, which would conduct its first meeting in Winter 2022, should further study the data and identify dental anesthesiology Accreditation Standards which may warrant revision. At its August 5, 2021 meeting, the Commission agreed and directed further review and analysis of the study to the Review Committee on Dental Anesthesiology to identify Accreditation Standards, if any, which warrant revision with a report for consideration by the Commission in Winter 2022.

At this meeting, the Dental Anesthesiology Review Committee (DENTANES RC) continued review of the survey data and the written comments gathered through the Validity and Reliability Study for Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Anesthesiology to identify Accreditation Standards, if any, which warrant revision. Through its review of the survey data and comments, the DENTANES RC noted that subparts of Standard 2-2 specific to curriculum content related to pain associated with the head and neck region, and Standard 2-6, related to minimum number of clinical procedures residents must complete, appeared to be the most frequently identified by survey respondents.

The DENTANES RC also noted that the identification of some subparts of these Standards in the survey results appeared contradictory because, in some instances, the same Standard subparts were identified as “*Too demanding*” and “*Not relevant*” depending on the respondent group. For example, Standard 2-2 i was identified as “*Too demanding*” by some dental anesthesiology program directors and practicing dental anesthesiologists, but “*Not relevant*” by some dental anesthesiology program directors. Similarly, Standard 2-6 c was identified as “*Too demanding*” by the highest percentage of practicing dental anesthesiologists and “*Not Relevant*” by some dental anesthesiology program directors and practicing dental anesthesiologists.

Following considerable discussion, the DENTANES RC believed that Standards 2-2 and 2-6 warrant modification, specifically subpart 2-2 i, regarding chronic pain related to the head and neck region and subpart 2-6 c, regarding exposure to the management of patients with chronic orofacial pain. Additionally, the DENTANES RC discussed whether these two subparts should remain as requirements given that treatment of patients with chronic pain related to the head and neck region and chronic orofacial pain is provided by orofacial pain practitioners and generally not considered within the scope of practice for dental anesthesiology. Therefore, the DENTANES RC believed that these subparts should be deleted from the Dental Anesthesiology Standards and recommended that the proposed revisions to Standards 2-2 and 2-6 found in **Appendix 1** be circulated to the communities of interest for review and comment for a period of one year, with hearings conducted in conjunction with the March 2022 American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Annual Session and the October 2022 American Dental Association (ADA) Annual Meeting, with comments reviewed at the Commission’s Winter 2023 meetings.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct circulation of the proposed revisions to Standard 2-2 and 2-6 of the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Anesthesiology found in **Appendix 1**, to the communities of interest for review and comment, with Hearings conducted in conjunction with the March 2022 American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Annual Session and the October 2022 American Dental Association (ADA) Annual Meeting, with comments reviewed at the Commission’s Winter 2023 meetings.

Consideration of Proposed Revision to Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Anesthesiology Related to Patients With Special Needs (p. 1501):

On June 22, 2021, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) received a request from the American Dental Association's Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL) to consider revising the Accreditation Standards to require graduates to be competent in treating patients with special needs. The Council on Dental Education and Licensure's request is found in **Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1501**.

At its Summer 2021 meeting, the Review Committee on Advanced Education in General Dentistry, General Practice Residency, Dental Anesthesiology, Oral Medicine, and Orofacial Pain (AGDOO RC) considered the request for proposed revision to the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Education in General Dentistry, General Practice Residency, Dental Anesthesiology, and Orofacial Pain submitted by the CDEL. The AGDOO RC believed that the Accreditation Standards for each of the disciplines under its purview should be further studied to determine whether modification of existing Standards or development of new Standard(s) related to patients with special needs is warranted. Further, the AGDOO RC recommended that the new Review Committees on Dental Anesthesiology, which would conduct its first meeting in Winter 2022, further study its specific Accreditation Standards with a report to the Commission at its Winter 2022 meeting. At its August 5, 2021 meeting, the Commission agreed and directed the new Dental Anesthesiology Review Committee to further study the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Anesthesiology to determine whether modification of existing Standards or development of new Standard(s) related to patients with special needs is warranted, with a report to the Commission at its Winter 2022 meeting.

At this meeting, the DENTANES RC further studied the request for proposed revision to the Accreditation Standards (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1501**) submitted by the CDEL. Through discussion, the DENTANES RC noted that the Dental Anesthesiology Standards currently address patients with special needs through providing a definition, as well as through Standard 2-1, written competency requirements, and Standard 2-6, minimum clinical experiences that must be obtained with a variety of patients, including patients with special needs. The DENTANES RC also believed that because of the nature of the practice of dental anesthesiology which requires providing a safe environment for managing anxiety and pain of a variety of patients, including patients with special needs, graduates of advanced dental education programs in dental anesthesiology are appropriately trained to treat patients with special needs. Therefore, the DENTANES RC determined that modification of existing Standards or development of new Standard(s) related to patients with special needs is not warranted.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct the Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Anesthesiology be retained without further modification related to patients with special needs.

Report on Advanced Dental Education in Dental Anesthesiology Annual Survey

Curriculum Section (p. 1502): The Review Committee on Dental Anesthesiology (DENTANES RC) noted that the Annual Survey Curriculum Section is reviewed during the Winter Review Committee meeting in the year the survey will be distributed; which will next occur in 2022. Additionally, the DENTANES RC noted that at its Summer 2020 meeting, the Commission approved revisions to the Annual Survey Curriculum Section for implementation in Fall 2022.

At this meeting, the DENTANES RC considered its discipline-specific Annual Survey Curriculum Sections (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1502**). Through discussion, the DENTANES RC noted that the questions on the Annual Survey Curriculum Section generally correlate to the Accreditation Standards and should be retained with no changes for use in Fall 2022.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Commission on Dental Accreditation direct the Dental Anesthesiology Annual Survey Curriculum Section (**Appendix 1, Policy Report p. 1502**) be retained with no changes for use in Fall 2022.

**CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATING TO
MORE THAN ONE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Matters related to more than one review committee are included in a separate report.

**CONSIDERATION OF SITE VISITOR APPOINTMENTS TO THE
COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION IN THE AREA OF
DENTAL ANESTHESIOLOGY EDUCATION**

The Review Committee on Dental Anesthesiology Education considered site visitor appointments for 2022-2023. The Committee's recommendations on the appointments of individuals are included in a separate report.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS RELATED TO ACCREDITATION STATUS

Matters related to accreditation status of programs are included in a separate report.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Joseph Giovannitti
Chair, Review Committee on Dental Anesthesiology Education

Commission on Dental Accreditation

Proposed Revised Standards

Additions are Underlined
~~Strikethroughs~~ indicate Deletions

Accreditation Standards for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Dental Anesthesiology

STANDARD 2 – EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

2-2 Upon completion of training, the resident **must** be:

- a) Able to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the human body and its response to the various pharmacologic agents used in anxiety and pain control;
- b) Able to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the pathophysiology and clinical medicine related to disease of the human body and effects of various pharmacological agents used in anxiety and pain control when these conditions are present;
- c) Competent in evaluating, selecting and determining the potential response and risk associated with various forms of anxiety and pain control modalities based on patients' physiological and psychological factors;
- d) Competent in patient preparation for sedation/anesthesia, including pre-operative and post-operative instructions and informed consent/assent;
- e) Competent in the use of anesthesia-related equipment for the delivery of anesthesia, patient monitoring, and emergency management;
- f) Competent in the administration of local anesthesia, sedation, and general anesthesia, as well as in psychological management and behavior modification as they relate to anxiety and pain control in dentistry;
- g) Competent in managing perioperative emergencies and complications related to anxiety and pain control procedures, including the immediate establishment of an airway and maintenance of ventilation and circulation;
- h) Competent in the diagnosis and non-surgical treatment of acute pain related to the head and neck region; and
- ~~i) Familiar with the diagnosis and treatment of chronic pain related to the head and neck region; and~~
- j) i) Able to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of current literature pertaining to dental anesthesiology.

Intent: The program's specific competency requirements and the didactic and clinical training and experiences in each area described above are expected to be at a level of skill and complexity beyond that accomplished in pre-doctoral training and consistent with preparing the dentist to utilize anxiety and pain control methods safely in the most comprehensive manner as set forth in the specific standards contained in this document.

Examples of evidence to demonstrate compliance may include:

- Written competency requirements
- Didactic coursework, including lecture schedules and assigned reading
- Case review conferences
- Records of resident clinical activity including procedures performed in each area described above

1 Resident logs

2 Patient records in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability

3 Act (HIPAA) standards

4 Resident evaluations

5
6
7 **2-6** The following list represents the minimum clinical experiences that **must** be obtained by
8 each resident in the program at the completion of training:

9
10 a) Eight hundred (800) total cases of deep sedation/general anesthesia to include the
11 following:

12 (1) Three hundred (300) intubated general anesthetics of which at least fifty (50)
13 are nasal intubations and twenty-five (25) incorporate advanced airway
14 management techniques. No more than ten (10) of the twenty five (25)
15 advanced airway technique requirements can be blind nasal intubations.

16 (2) One hundred and twenty five (125) children age seven (7) and under, and

17 (3) Seventy five (75) patients with special needs, and

18 b) Clinical experiences sufficient to meet the competency requirements (described in
19 Standard 2-1 and 2-2) in managing ambulatory patients, geriatric patients, patients
20 with physical status ASA III or greater, and patients requiring moderate sedation.;

21 and

22 ~~c) Exposure to the management of patients with chronic orofacial pain.~~

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