



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
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IN REPLY REFER TO
BUMEDNOTE 6010
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11 Jan 2017

BUMED NOTICE 6010

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENISTS

Ref: (a) DoDM 6025.13, Medical Quality Assurance and Clinical Quality Management in the Military Health System of 29 October 2013
(b) American Dental Hygienist's Association Overview of Dental Hygiene Clinical Examination Requirements

1. Purpose. To provide medical department personnel and leadership guidance for licensure of Registered Dental Hygienists (RDH) practicing in Navy Medicine within the Department of Defense.
2. Background. Reference (a) contains basic requirements for health care provider credentials. This policy mandates all RDHs practicing within the Military Health System to have an active, unrestricted license to practice or a written plan of supervision. Reference (b) provides an overview, by State, of all necessary requirements and can be accessed at: http://www.adha.org/resources-docs/7313_Overview_Clinical_Examinations.pdf.
3. Scope. This notice applies to all ships and stations having medical department personnel.
4. Policy. Per reference (a), all RDHs who are members of the uniformed services (Active and Reserve), federal employees, volunteers (when considered to be employees), and personal services contracts working in Navy Medicine require an active, unrestricted State license to practice. For Navy Medicine, only active duty RDHs without an active, unrestricted State license can practice under a written plan of supervision with a licensed RDH or privileged dentist.
5. Action
 - a. The plan of supervision must include: level of supervision, identity of supervisor, evaluation criteria, and frequency of evaluation. It must identify what actions the RDH is taking to obtain an active, unrestricted State license and an estimation of when the license will be obtained.
 - b. The plan of supervision allows the RDH to continue to provide the full scope of dental hygiene services without degradation of clinical duties for a defined period of time not to exceed 18 months. If the RDH is still unlicensed after 18 months, the facility must reevaluate the RDH's clinical practice and actions taken to obtain required license before initiating a new plan of supervision.

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6. Records. Records created as a result of this notice, regardless of media and format, must be managed per SECNAV M-5210.1 of January 2012.



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This notice is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via the Navy Medicine Web site: <http://www.med.navy.mil/directives/Pages/BUMEDNotes.aspx>