

# DENTAL HYGIENE EXPANDED SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Laurie Humphrey RDH,BS

President, Oklahoma Dental Hygienists' Association

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021

# OKLAHOMA DENTAL HYGIENISTS' ASSOCIATION-ODHA

Non-Profit run by volunteer **RDH**.

**Registered Dental Hygienist**

## MISSION STATEMENT

To improve the public's total health, the mission of the Oklahoma Dental Hygienists' Association is to advance the art & science of dental hygiene by **ensuring access to quality oral health care, increasing awareness of prevention...**



# SURVEY OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS IN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ODHA wanted to start a conversation with Oklahoma's Hygienists to see how they wanted the Dental Hygiene profession to progress in the future.

# DENTAL THERAPY

**78%**

SUPPORT LICENSING DENTAL HYGIENE BASED THERAPISTS TO OFFER ADDITIONAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR DENTAL HYGIENISTS TO CARE FOR UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.

**65%**

IF DENTAL THERAPY LICENSURE WAS AVAILABLE IN OKLAHOMA, DENTAL HYGIENISTS WOULD BE INTERESTED IN COMPLETING THE REQUIRED EDUCATION.

**78%** HAD BEEN IN PRACTICE FOR LESS THAN 10 YEARS, MEANING YOUNGER HYGIENISTS WANT THIS OPPORTUNITY.

# RESTORATIVE

85%

85% of Dental Hygienists are interested in obtaining a restorative advanced procedure certification.

# TELEDENTISTRY

**80%** Believe Tele-dentistry is effective to communicate findings regarding a dental patient.

**82%** Believe Dental Hygienists should be authorized to utilize Tele-dentistry when providing care.

**86%**

Believe Tele-dentistry can be effective in Oklahoma to reach rural and other underserved populations and increase access to oral health care.

# 94% GENERAL SUPERVISION

Supervision of dental procedures based on instructions given by a licensed Oklahoma Dentist but not requiring the physical presence of the supervising Dentist during the performance of those procedures.

Oklahoma Dental Hygienists are well trained, highly educated dental professionals who are eager to be utilized to provide oral healthcare for underserved Oklahomans.

The Oklahoma Dental Hygienists' Association is excited to work alongside our Dentists, the Oklahoma Dental Association and the Oklahoma Board of Dentistry to expand the Dental Hygienists' scope of practice as a solution to limited access .

**OBSTACLES**

CHANGE IS HARD!





LAURIE HUMPHREY  
ODHA PRESIDENT  
PRESIDENT@OKDHA.ORG

