

SCHEDULE 4 TO THE BY-LAWS

Code of Ethics for Dental Technologists

Note to Readers: In the event of any inconsistency between this document and the legislation that affects dental technology practice, the legislation governs.

College publications contain practice parameters and standards which should be considered by all Ontario dental technologists in the care of their patients and in the practice of the profession. College publications are developed in consultation with the profession and describe current professional expectations. It is important to note that these College publications may be used by the College or other bodies in determining whether appropriate standards of practice and professional responsibilities have been maintained.

Preamble

The ethical foundation of the practice of dental technology consists of general principles of conduct which the profession has come to accept as prerequisites to maintain the dignity and integrity of the profession. This Code is intended to outline, in broad fashion, the duties and responsibilities to which members of the College are expected to adhere in their relations with the public, their fellow practitioners and other health professionals.

General

Ethical dental technologists will:

1. have as their consideration the adequate design, construction, repair or alteration of dental prosthetic, restorative and orthodontic devices;
2. strive to improve the standards of dental technology services;
3. uphold the honour and dignity of the profession by standards of integrity and behaviour;
4. recognize their limitations;
5. be responsible in setting a value on their services;
6. abide by the laws of the jurisdiction in which they practise;
7. inform the College when a physical or mental disease/condition has affected or may affect over time, their ability to practise safely or competently;
8. inform the College, because of reasonable grounds obtained in the course of practising the profession, of conduct that may constitute sexual abuse or sexual harassment of another dental technologist or a member of another College.

Services to the Public

Ethical dental technologists will:

1. practise their profession with all the knowledge and ability of which they are capable;
2. not practise under conditions which may adversely affect the quality of their services;
3. continue their education to improve their standards of services;
4. kindly but firmly insist upon doing only those things which their professional knowledge dictates to be in the best interest and welfare of the patients for whom dental technology services are requested;

5. not abdicate their professional responsibilities to protect the health and well-being of their patients for whom dental technology services are requested;
6. recognize that patients have the right to accept or reject any treatment plan recommended by a dental technologist and have the right to request opinions from other dental technologists;
7. keep in confidence information derived from their patients or from colleagues regarding patients and divulge it only with the permission of the patients except when the law requires them to do otherwise, and in circumstances of interprofessional consultation;
8. ensure that their conduct in the practice of their profession is above reproach and that they will not take, physical, emotional or financial advantage of patients referred to them;
9. assist on patients' requests, by supplying them the information required to enable the patients to receive any benefits to which they may be entitled;
10. not hold out to the public as exclusive agents of any method or technique unless they are qualified;
11. cooperate with appropriate public officials;
12. act in a manner consistent with the Canadian Human Rights Act and the Human Rights Code (Ontario);
13. inform the College, because of reasonable grounds obtained in the course of practising the profession, of conduct constituting sexual abuse of a patient by a member of the College, or, where such conduct is by a member of another College, inform the College of which the person who is a member.

Fellow/Prescribing Practitioners

Ethical dental technologists will:

1. not pass judgement on the qualifications of or procedures rendered by fellow practitioners except as may be required in the interest of patients' oral health;
2. render only such dental technology service as has been requested by the prescribing practitioner;
3. not collaborate with prescribing and/or fellow practitioners in acts that may lead to fraudulent activities or contravention of the Act or the RHPA.