

STANDARDS OF DENTURE CLINICS & DENTURIST'S PRACTICE

PURPOSE OF THE STANDARD

The purpose of this standard is to ensure clinics maintain a degree of services, decorum and sanitation appropriate for the delivery of a health service to the public.

DESCRIPTION OF THE STANDARD

Standards for the premises regarding the physical conditions are as follows by the College of Denturists of Ontario. Accepted standards for sterilization procedures are detailed in web section Infection Control.

It is required that disposable gloves be used to minimize the transmission of germs and communicable diseases. The non-use of gloves must be undertaken only with the patient's written consent. Practitioners must familiarize themselves with appropriate WHMIS requirements. [Click here for more information on WHMIS.](#)

Non-compliance with this standard has widespread consequences including patient and practitioner health and legal issues.

EXTERNAL STANDARDS

Access and availability of staff and patient parking.
Signage identifying the clinic and member according to College Regulations.

STANDARDS FOR CLINIC PREMISES

At a minimum a denture clinic must have a telephone, fire extinguisher, first aid kit, Certificate displayed, and Certificate of Authorization for a Health Professional Corporate (if applicable) displayed; patient access to a washroom, waiting room secure business area, an operatory, and sterilization area. In any communication materials, appropriate professional designation must be used.

As well, a denture clinic should be composed of a waiting room, a washroom, business area and laboratory (where these are present the following minimum standards apply). To best accommodate a clinic it is recommended that the minimum space required is approximately 1,000 square feet.

EXTERNAL STANDARDS: REQUIRED

External Signage as per College Regulations

Internal Signage as per College Regulations

Proof of Clinic Name Approved by College

Is this denture clinic composed of the following:

Waiting Room

Washroom

Business Area

Operatory

Laboratory

Sterilization Area

Does the denture clinic possess the following:

Telephone

Fire Extinguisher

First Aid Kit

College Certificate Displayed

Certificate of Authorization for a Health Professional

Corporation (if applicable) Displayed

OPERATORY

As of June 1st, 2011 new clinics are required to have a dental chair, examination light and an evacuator or cuspidor in their operatory. As of December 31st, 2011 all existing clinics must meet the same requirements.

OPERATORY: REQUIRED

Evidence of instrument cleaning, sterilization, and safe storage (individually bagged)

Examination light

Dental Chair

Cuspidor or evacuator with running water

Disposable examination gloves

Impression trays (individually bagged after sterilization and sufficient number to meet sterilization time guidelines) Bags are not to be re-used.

Mouth mirrors (sufficient number to meet sterilization time guidelines)

Waste disposal (lined)

Soap Dispenser

Sink (running hot & cold water)

Single use disposable towel/air drying mechanism

Disposable cups

OPERATORY: RECOMMENDED

Storage area
Ventilation (windows, exhaust fans)
Bibs (disposable)
Facial tissue
Hand mirror (5" x 7")
Shade guides
Safety Glasses
Scrubs
Lab Coat
N-95 masks

WAITING ROOM

WAITING ROOM: REQUIRED

Cleanliness

WAITING ROOM: RECOMMENDED

Adequate light
Ventilation
Chairs
Coat rack/hangers

STERILIZATION AREA

STERILIZATION AREA: REQUIRED

Sink with hot and cold water
Ultra-sonic (in working order)
Autoclave/Chemiclave/Dry Heat Oven/Chemical Sterilants
Sterilization & Spore Testing Records - A sterilization area is dedicated to instrument sterilization. All sterilized and disinfected equipment should be stored separately in sealed containers in a manner to minimize cross-contamination (ie; plastic baggie)

LABORATORY

LABORATORY: REQUIRED

Evidence of asepsis
Evidence of surface cleaning & disinfection
Ventilation
Sink and running hot and cold water supply
Plaster/polishing impermeable work surface
Packing/curing impermeable work surface
Polishing lathe
Trimming lathe
Work pans
Waste disposal
Safety Glasses
Workplace Hazardous Material Information System (WHMIS) information sheets

LABORATORY: RECOMMENDED

Gas
Technician bench/stools/chairs
Storage space
Boil out unit
Processing unit
Bunsen burner
Splash pans
Articulators
Scrubs
Lab Coat

WASHROOM

WASHROOM: REQUIRED

Toilet
Sink with running hot and cold water
Hand soap (dispenser)
Single-use/disposable towels or air dryer
Waste disposal (lined)
Cleanliness (adequate asepsis and hygiene practiced)

WASHROOM: RECOMMENDED

Light
Ventilation
Mirror

SECURE BUSINESS AREA

SECURE BUSINESS AREA: REQUIRED

Secure file cabinet (record storage)
Computer screen not observable to non-staff
Computer records password protected
Patient treatment records
Consent to Information Collection document identifying practitioner
Privacy policy for patients to sign
Patient receipts
Patient appointment mechanism
Consent to Treatment Plan

SECURE BUSINESS AREA: RECOMMENDED

Desk and chair
Business appointment cards
Statements/letterhead/envelopes
Bookkeeping and stationery supplies