

Virginia Board of Dentistry

Policy Regarding Delegation of Pulp-Capping Procedures to a Dental Assistant II

On June 10, 2022, the Board of Dentistry adopted proposed regulations to clarify that dentists may only delegate indirect pulp-capping to individuals registered as a dental assistant II. Due to the lack of clarity in the current regulations, individuals registered as a dental assistant II may have “pulp-capping procedures” listed as delegable duty on their registration.

While the registration of any individual received in years prior will not be changed, the Board reminds dentists that just because a procedure may be delegated does not mean it should or must be. The Board states that, for patient safety, only a dentist should manage a direct pulp capping procedure.