

**Department of Health Professions  
Board of Health Professions  
REGULATORY RESEARCH COMMITTEE  
Public Hearing-Dental Hygienist Scope of Practice Review  
January 22, 2015**

- TIME AND PLACE:** The meeting was called to order at 10:36 a.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2015, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Board Room, Henrico, VA, 23233.
- PRESIDING OFFICER:** Virginia Van de Water, Ph.D., Chair
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Yvonne Haynes, Board of Counseling  
Virginia Van de Water, Ph.D., Board of Psychology  
James Watkins, Board of Dentistry  
James Wells, Citizen Member
- MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** Frazier Frantz, Board of Medicine  
Ellen Shinaberry, Board of Pharmacy
- STAFF PRESENT:** Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D., Executive Director for the Board  
Justin Crow, Deputy Executive Director for the Board  
Laura Jackson, Operations Manager
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Joyce Flores, ODU School of Dental Hygiene  
Sarah Holland, Va OHC  
Tonya Adiches, VDH  
Michael Link, VDA President  
Bruce Wyman, Founder of N. VA Dental Clinic  
Michelle McGregor, VCU School of Dentistry
- QUORUM:** A quorum was established with four members in attendance.
- EMERGENCY EGRESS:** Dr. Van de Water provided emergency evacuation instructions.
- PUBLIC COMMENT:** Dr. Michael Link, VDA President  
Dr. Link stated that VDA has several areas of discrepancy with the Board of Health Professions report entitled Review of Dental Hygienist Scope of Practice. VDA would like more in depth research in the areas of complaints against dental hygienists, is there a shortage in this profession and cost effectiveness of change to the scope of practice. VDA is currently looking into working closely with Community Dental Health Coordinators (CDHC) whose focus is education, prevention and navigation. VDA will be providing written comment prior to the February 5, 2015 due date.
- Bruce Wyman, Periodontist, Fairfax, VA  
Mr. Wyman has practiced periodontics for over 40 years. He is a member of the Board of Dentistry, but is not acting in that

capacity for this public hearing. He is the co-founder of the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic which provides oral health care services to low income residents throughout the northern Virginia region. The clinic is staffed by volunteer dentists and dental hygienists on a part time basis. Mr. Wyman stated that he is in acceptance of policy options 1 & 2, whereas option 4 would require constant attention. Policy Options 3, 5 & 6 in combination could work. He stated that a dentist must be available to supervise, especially when experience of the hygienist is less than five years.

Michelle McGregor, President Virginia Dental Hygiene Association, Professor at VCU School of Dentistry  
Ms. McGregor stated that VCU recommends policy options 3 & 4. There are wording issues with option 4 & 5. Policy option 6 would be utilized if all stakeholders are involved. Ms. McGregor stated that every dental hygienist school in Virginia could double their class size. She also stated that VDH has already established dental hygienists who work within a remote supervision model.

Joyce Flores, Virginia Dental Hygienist Association, ODU School of Dental Hygiene  
Ms. Flores has over 22 years experience as a dental hygienist. She has practiced in North Carolina, Texas and Virginia. She is pursuing her Ph.D. Ms. Flores stated that VDHA is in support of the remote supervision model that VHD is utilizing. VDHA is in support of policy option 3 with collaborative care, and policy option 4 which may be the most timely. Policy options 5 & 6 involve additional educational requirements.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no other business to conduct, the public hearing adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

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Virginia Van de Water, Ph.D.  
Chair

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Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D.  
Executive Director for the Board