

## ASEAN Dental Practice Standards

Statement of Practice Standard	Scope of Performing Abilities
<p>1. Clinical practice must encapsulate patient safety, contemporary practice, and professional standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental professionals should always understand and apply principles of ethical practice and professional responsibility</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should ensure that their personal conduct maintains the patients' and public's trust in the dental profession</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should communicate clearly and work effectively and cordially with colleagues in the interest of patients</li> </ul>
<p>2. Patient management must be patient-centric, comprehensive and with informed consent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental practitioners should communicate effectively with patients</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should provide patients with clear information about all relevant treatment options, outcomes and possible costs</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should acknowledge and support patients' rights to make decisions about their health and care they receive</li> <li>• Dental professionals should obtain valid and informed consent from patients before starting treatment.</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should treat patients with dignity and respect at all times, and manage patients and colleagues from diverse backgrounds and beliefs without prejudice or discrimination</li> <li>• Dental professionals should put patients' interests first</li> </ul>
<p>3. All dental practitioners in a clinic must be appropriately qualified and must be registered and/or licensed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All dental practitioners must have qualifications that are recognised and licensed by the country's regulatory body</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should be aware of, and comply with all legal and regulatory requirements related to the provision of oral health care of the country's regulatory body</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental practitioners should co-operate with any relevant formal or informal inquiry and give full and truthful information</li> </ul>
<p>4. There must be quality assurance processes in place to monitor standards of care provided by dental practitioners, including appropriateness, necessity and quality of care. There must be mechanisms to identify and address deficiencies of care, where appropriate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental practitioners should understand scientific principles and apply the knowledge of biological, biomedical, behavioural, technical and clinical sciences in the management of patients</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should obtain, record and interpret a comprehensive and contemporaneous patient history</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should adopt a holistic and preventive approach to patient care, and establish an individualised treatment plan</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should work within their knowledge, skills, abilities and competence</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should recognise the treatments that are beyond their skills and experience, and refer appropriately</li> <li>• Dental practitioners who delegate tasks must do so appropriately and effectively, and maintain accountability</li> </ul>
<p>5. There must be in place effective health screening and management processes for dental practitioners, where necessary.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental practitioners should safeguard patients and colleagues from risks arising from their health, conduct or performance</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should refrain from self-diagnosis, self-assessment and self-medication</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should seek help promptly and inform their Professional Regulatory Authority if there is an impairment or disability (including substance abuse or addiction) that may affect their work</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should take appropriate action if they suspect possible abuse of children or vulnerable adult patients</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental practitioners should encourage a culture where staff can voice their concerns openly, and without fear of reprisal</li> </ul>
<p>6. There must be in place effective processes addressing areas of occupational health and safety (including radiation safety), management of medical emergencies, patient complaints, and confidentiality of patient information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental practitioners should follow guidelines regarding radiation safety and infection control, and treat patients in a hygienic and safe working environment</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should make and keep contemporaneous, complete, clear, legible and accurate patient records</li> <li>• An accurate record of referrals of patients to another dental professional or other health professional must be made in the patient's notes</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should protect the confidentiality of patients' information and only use it for the purpose for which it was given</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should be competent in the use of information technology, and ensure patient information is protected at all times</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should have appropriate arrangements in place for patients to seek compensation if they suffer harm</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should make sure that there is an effective complaints process always available for patients</li> </ul>
<p>7. There must be in place effective internal and external quality improvement processes (incl. staff professional development and performance evaluation) to ensure adequacy of service delivery, quality improvement and linkage to contemporary practice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental practitioners should engage in self-assessment, critical thinking, and self-directed learning to maintain clinical competence</li> <li>• Dental professionals should provide good quality care based on current evidence and authoritative guidance</li> <li>• Dental practitioners should update and develop their professional knowledge and skills throughout their working life</li> </ul>

