

College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba's Practice Guideline: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Requirement

This practice guideline is to inform registrants of the College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba (CDHM) about the update on the current regulations on the yearly cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) requirement.

As healthcare professionals, registered dental hygienists of Manitoba have a professional,¹⁻² legal,³ and ethical obligation to ensure they have appropriate CPR education to safely and effectively care for their clients in the event of an emergency.

It is evident from the scientific literature that CPR knowledge and skills will deteriorate over a period of 365 days with non-use or non-practice and that poor quality resuscitation by rescuers is commonly observed in actual cardiac arrests.⁴ Therefore, a yearly renewal of CPR knowledge and skills allows the dental hygienist to remain current in the concepts and practice of CPR and to increase the probability of an effective intervention during a medical emergency in a dental setting.⁵

According to the *CDHM Competencies*, registrants of the CDHM have the ability to:

- identify clients at risk for medical emergency⁵
- assess the practice environment for safety risks (i.e. for clients, the dental hygienist and others)⁶
- assess the practice environment for emergency measures (i.e. for clients, the dental hygienist and others)⁷
- demonstrate awareness of and compliance with the policies of the practice environment (e.g. infection control procedures, safety guidelines, emergency preparedness, etc.)⁸
- apply principles of risk management for client health and safety (e.g. universal precautions, considering latex allergies, etc.)¹
- ensure the provision of care in emergency situations.²
- document health and safety incidents⁹
- advocate for practice policies that enhance safety and optimal provision of dental hygiene services (e.g. improved infection control protocols, zero tolerance, etc.).¹⁰

Registrants applying for registration and renewal of registration must provide evidence of completion of a Basic Rescuer CPR Level C or Health Care Provider course in the last 12 months.³

CPR certification must be completed no longer than twelve months prior to the December 1 renewal of registration deadline. Approval of registration will not be issued without evidence of CPR certification. It is important to ensure that the CPR course has a hands-on component. Online CPR courses without a hands-on component are not acceptable for registration and renewal of registration.

In 2016, five national agencies joined together to release an evidence-based set of recommendations on training and standards of practice for first aid and CPR.¹¹ Based on these 2016 Canadian Consensus Guidelines on First Aid and CPR¹², the CDHM requires that registrants acquire CPR certification from an instructor currently certified from one of the five national agencies listed below:

- Heart and Stroke foundation of Canada
- Canadian Red Cross
- St John Ambulance
- Canadian Ski Patrol
- Life Saving Society

For registrants practising internationally, the CDHM requires CPR certification acquired from either the five agencies listed above or from the American Heart Association.

This practice guideline reflects current knowledge and is subject to periodic review and revisions with on-going research.

References

1. CDHM Dental Hygiene Competencies, (Implementation) #56, page 12.
2. CDHM Dental Hygiene Competencies, (Implementation) #58, page 12
3. The Dental Hygienists Act; Dental Hygiene Regulation: Section 9(1)(g) and 9(1)(i)
4. Yang C, Yen Z, McGowan J, Chen H, Chiang W, Mancini M et al. A systematic review of retention of adult advanced life support knowledge and skills in healthcare providers. *Resuscitation*. 2012;83(9):1055-1060.
5. CDHM Dental Hygiene Competencies, (Assessment) #8, page 4.
6. CDHM Dental Hygiene Competencies, (Assessment) #59, page 7.
7. CDHM Dental Hygiene Competencies, (Assessment) #60, page 7.
8. CDHM Dental Hygiene Competencies, (Assessment) #67, page 7.
9. CDHM Dental Hygiene Competencies, (Implementation) #59, page 12.
10. CDHM Dental Hygiene Competencies, (Implementation) #67, page 12.
11. 2016 Canadian Consensus Guidelines on First Aid and CPR; Release Letter. Feb 2016
Available from: http://lifesaving.mb.ca/cms/wp-content/uploads/2016firstaid_releaseletter.pdf
12. 2016 Canadian Consensus Guidelines on First Aid and CPR. Feb 2016.
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http://lifesaving.mb.ca/cms/wpcontent/uploads/2016firstaid_consensus_guidelines.pdf