



COLLEGE OF
DENTAL HYGIENISTS
OF MANITOBA

POSITION STATEMENT: Removal of Implant Supported Crowns and/or Fixed Prostheses

February 2021

The College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba is responsible for developing professional resource documents for dental hygienists and in serving the public interest. Council approves these documents, of which, the purpose is to explain, enhance, add, or guide dental hygiene practice in accordance with The Dental Hygienists Act and Regulation. It is the responsibility of the dental hygienist to understand and comply with these documents.

The College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba's Position Statement for the Removal of Implant Supported Crowns and/or Fixed Prostheses

Purpose

The purpose of this position statement is to inform registrants of The College of Registered Dental Hygienists of Manitoba (CDHM) on the College's position of removing and replacing an implant supported fixed removable prosthesis with screws for dental hygiene treatment.

Background

Screw-retained implant-supported crowns and fixed prostheses are treatment options that can enhance aesthetics and phonetics, in addition to nutritional uptake by way of improving mastication and functional abilities. As implants and fixed prostheses are increasingly utilized to address oral health needs, dental hygienists will encounter these rehabilitative systems more often in their provision of care.

Position

The CDHM **does not** permit the removal or replacement of screw-retained implant supported crowns or fixed prosthesis by registered dental hygienists.

This decision is based on current legislation and on the lack of comprehensive educational instruction. There are a wide range of implant assisted therapies which require specialized instruments to remove and re-attach. Improper manipulation may adversely affect the future function and stability of the underlying implant. Therefore, the removal of a crown or fixed prosthetic supported by an implant must be completed by a dentist or prosthodontist. To date, there is insufficient didactic and clinical training for dental hygienists on the removal of implant supported crowns or fixed dentures. Accordingly, their removal is currently not in the scope of practice for registered dental hygienists in Manitoba.

Practising dental hygienists **are** permitted to remove the button type over-dentures after assessing the overall integrity of the implants and surrounding tissue.

Legislative Reference

According to the CDHM Practice Standards, dental hygienists:

- 1.1. Adhere to current jurisdictional legislation, regulations, codes of ethics, practice standards, guidelines, and policies relevant to the profession and practice setting;
- 1.11 Consult and collaborate with other colleagues, health professionals, and experts as necessary

*This position statement reflects current knowledge and is subject to periodic review and revisions with on-going research.

References

1. Ülkü SZ, Kaya FA, Uysal E, Gulsun B. Clinical Evaluation of Complications in Implant-Supported Dentures: A 4-Year Retrospective Study. Med Sci Monit [Internet]. 2017. 12;23. Retrieved from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.12659/MSM.907840>
2. CDHM Practice Standards. College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba. 2007.