



COLLEGE OF
DENTAL HYGIENISTS
OF MANITOBA

INTERPRETATION GUIDELINE: Temporary Restorations

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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.

College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba's Interpretation Guideline

Temporary Restorations

Purpose

This interpretation guideline is to inform registrants of the College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba (CDHM) about the requirements for the placement of temporary restorations.

Background

Dental decay that is left untreated can cause pain and lead to negative oral health and overall health outcomes.

Temporary restorations are effective in restoring function, reducing or eliminating client discomfort caused by tooth decay, encouraging the formation of tertiary dentin (depending on material selected) and preventing tooth loss by halting disease progression.

Temporary restorations may be placed as a preventive measure when:

- Access to a permanent restoration is not immediate or practical.
- There is a reasonable risk of further damage to the tooth structure.
- The pulp is not exposed.
- The client is in discomfort or is experiencing difficulty eating.
- The discomfort is due to recent trauma, fracture, or lost dental restoration.
- The client has not received any medical/dental advice that would contraindicate placing a temporary restoration.
- The client consents to the treatment and it is in the client's best interest to proceed.
- There are no medical contraindications to the restorative material.

Requirements

- Manitoba dental hygienists:
 - Cannot diagnose dental decay; however, they can identify a client's unmet needs according to the Human Needs Conceptual Model of Care. An unmet need of biologically sound dentition may be addressed by placing a temporary restoration.
 - May place **temporary** restorations on primary and permanent dentition, including the placement and removal of rubber dam, and matrices and wedges.
 - Cannot remove sound tooth structure, however, they may remove soft debris, plaque and/or food debris prior to the placement of materials for temporary restoration.
 - May apply materials for temporary restorations including zinc-oxide eugenol (ZOE), glass ionomer cement (GIC) or other medicated/non-medicated cements.
 - Must select materials for temporary restorations utilizing the principles of evidence-based practice and client-centred care.

- Must obtain informed consent prior to providing temporary restorative therapy, ensuring that the client (or representative) understands the temporary nature of the restoration. Must refer client to a dentist for further permanent treatment.

NOTE: Registrants on the CDHM Restorative Advance Practice Roster may place permanent restorations with direction and supervision of a dentist.

Definition for Interim Stabilization Therapy (IST): IST is the name given for an important therapeutic intervention first used for the Health Canada, Ontario region, First Nations Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB), Children’s Oral Health Initiative (COHI) Program, as a temporary restorative option that can be performed by dental hygienists. This procedure requires no anaesthetic and uses glass-ionomer cement (GIC) to help re-mineralize the affected lesion. Tooth preparation for IST includes removing soft debris (plaque and/or food particles), which is included in the scope of practice of Manitoba dental hygienists. See the CDHM Interpretation Guideline for Interim Stabilization Therapy.

*This Interpretation Guideline reflects current knowledge and is subject to periodic review and revision according to on-going research.

References

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3. MacDonald L, Bowen DM. Theory analysis of the Dental Hygiene Human Needs Conceptual Model. Int J Dent Hyg. 2017 Nov;15(4):e163-e172. [Internet] Available from: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/idh.12256>
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