College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CDSS) Standard for Cone Beam Computed Tomography

The College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan’s Standard for Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) in the dental practice is divided into the following four components:

1. General Considerations for Cone Beam CT

1.1 As with all radiographic techniques, practitioners should follow the guidelines outlined in the “CDA Position on Control of X-Radiation in Dentistry” as well as the “CDSS Guidelines for the Use of X-Radiation.”

 1.2 All patients must have an updated medical history and an intraoral examination before they undergo a CBCT

 1.3 CBCT imaging is not to be used for “screening purposes with no specific indication. Indications for CBCT include, but are not limited to, evaluation of possible implant sites, evaluation of impacted teeth, evaluation of third permanent molars, orthodontic evaluation, evaluation of pathological lesions in or affecting bone.

 1.4 All staff who will be involved in performing CBCT imaging must receive training in the use of the equipment before using it on patients.

 1.5 All continuing education that is required by the CDSS CBCT Standard may have been obtained prior to this standard coming into effect. Documentation of any such continuing education must be submitted to the CDSS Standards Committee for approval prior to using CBCT equipment. CE credits that are required for the CBCT Standard will also count towards the overall CE requirements for licensure.

1. CBCT Ownership

2.1 Any member of the CDSS who holds a valid license may own a CBCT unit if each of the following criterion are met:

i) The CBCT unit must be registered with, and meet the requirements of, the Radiation Safety Unit, Ministry of Labour Relations and Safety, Government of Saskatchewan.

ii) The member(s) responsible for the CBCT equipment must have a Radiation Safety Unit Facility Permit for the CBCT unit (effective January 1, 2018).

iii) The member(s) listed on the Radiation Safety Unit Facility Permit must have training in safe operation of the CBCT. This can be obtained on site (either at time of installation or at a later date), or at an off-site location. This training must be documented.

iv) Any member(s) listed on the Facility Permit must have at least three (3) hours of continuing education related to CBCT obtained by January 1, 2019.

v) The member(s) listed on the facility permit are responsible for arranging the appropriate ongoing maintenance and testing of the CBCT unit in accordance with provincial regulations.

2.2 A CDSS member who owns a CBCT unit, may only take a CBCT image if it is prescribed by someone who meets the criteria laid out in Part 3 of this document.

1. CBCT Prescription

3.1 The CDSS member who prescribes any radiographic exposure using CBCT imaging is responsible for the acquisition, interpretation, and communication of any findings of the imaging.

3.2 Any member of the CDSS who holds a valid license may prescribe radiographic exposures using CBCT (regardless of the imaging volume) if the following criteria are met:

i) The member must have attended a course or courses on CBCT for a minimum total of six (6) CE credits by January 1, 2019. This Continuing Education DOES NOT include the training in safe operation of the unit (see 2. Iii above). The focus of the CE is to be directed towards indications for CBCT, radiation physics, and interpretation of normal and abnormal findings. Members are encouraged to have these CE courses pre-approved by the CDSS CBCT Committee.

 ii) The member prescribing a CBCT must ensure that the

 interpretation of the image is done in a timely manner. This includes

 the completion of a suitable report (see section on Reporting)

 and communication of the findings to the patient and any other

 professionals that need to be involved in that patient’s care.

iii) The member prescribing the CBCT image must have completed an intraoral examination and an updated medical history OR have a request from another CDSS member who has completed an intraoral examination and updated medical history. This request must include the specific area that the CDSS member would like to see imaged along with the reason for the image.

1. CBCT Interpretation

4.1 As mentioned previously in this document, it is the responsibility of the dentist who prescribes the CBCT to make sure that the interpretation of the image is completed by a professional who has the proper training and credentials. The interpretation of any CBCT image is the only component of the CDSS CBCT Standard that is dependent on the size of the image acquired.

4.2 **Small Field of View Imaged Volumes** are those that do not measure greater than 10cm in height or width. These images may be interpreted by any individual who meets one or more of the following criteria:

i)Completion of a post-graduate program in Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology or Medical Radiology and a current license in his or her designated specialty in any Canadian or American jurisdiction.

ii)Completion of a post-graduate program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and a current license in his or her specialty in any Canadian or American jurisdiction.

iii)Completion of a minimum two (2) day course that provides current education in the interpretation of CBCT imaging (minimum 12 CE Credits). This course is to be pre-approved by the CDSS Standards Committee. Any member looking to complete this portion has until January 1, 2019. However, they are encouraged to complete this in a more timely manner, or make alternative arrangements for another professional to interpret the CBCT images.

iv)Any dentist currently holding a valid license in any jurisdiction in Canada or the United States who meets the criteria outlined in iii) above. If this professional is located outside of Saskatchewan, they must have already completed the CE outlined in iii) prior to the date of the acquisition of the CBCT.

v) Any member of the CDSS may submit a proposal to the CDSS CBCT Committee for consideration of their previous education to meet the criteria for interpreting small field of view CBCT images. This may include but is not limited to; coursework completed during specialty training or continuing education.

**4.3 Large Field of View Imaged Volumes** are those that measure greater than 10cm in height or width. These images may only be interpreted by an individual who meets one or more of the following criteria:

i) Completion of a post-graduate program in Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology or Medical Radiology and a current license in his or her designated specialty in any Canadian or American jurisdiction.

ii) Completion of a post-graduate program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and a current license in his or her specialty in any Canadian or American jurisdiction.

iii) Any member of the CDSS may submit a proposal to the CDSS CBCT Committee for consideration of their previous education to meet the criteria for interpreting large field of view CBCT images. This may include but is not limited to; coursework completed during specialty training or continuing education.

1. CBCT Reporting

4.1 All CBCT images must have a proper report or documentation in the patient’s chart. All reports or documentation must include the following:

 (i) Patient Identification

 (ii) Name of the Prescribing Member

(iii) Name of the Interpreting Dentist

(iv) Date that the CBCT Scan was acquired

(v) Size of the CBCT Scan that was acquired

(vi) Findings from the CBCT Interpretation and diagnosis if possible

(vii) Any further recommendations for follow-up imaging or other diagnostic testing