**Denturist Authorized Practice Clarification**

DDA Section 23(3) - A denturist is authorized, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of that person’s licence, to make, repair, reline, alter, replace or furnish a removable dental prosthesis, and for that purpose carry out non-surgical intraoral procedures, including the taking of impressions that are necessary to make, repair, reline, alter, replace or furnish a removable dental prosthesis.

**1.**

**History**

An ongoing concern of the CDSS has been the definition of the authorized practice of denturists, in particular the definition of the term removable partial prosthesis. The College interprets the word “removable” as removable by the patient. The Denturist Society has been allowing the practice of “removable” as removable by the practitioner. The concern of the CDSS is in the concern of public safety with respect to providing comprehensive treatment from diagnosis through to long term maintenance of a “fixed” denture which many of the diagnosis and maintenance practices required are beyond the scope of denturists.

**2.**

**A CDSS Registrant Concern**

A member of the public attended a dental facility with concerns about a complete denture fixed to implants by a denturist.

The dentist referred the individual to a dental specialist and inquired with the CDSS about the appropriateness of a denturist fabricating a fixed dental prosthesis.

**3.**

**Communication to the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan**

The CDSS sent a letter to the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan requesting “what the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan’s defines as a “removable dental prosthesis.”

Please see attached.

**4.**

**Legal Opinion**

The CDSS requested a legal opinion from the CDSS legal counsel regarding a denturist’s scope of practice.

Please see attached.

The legal opinion tended to side with the denturists???

**5.**

**Academic Definitions**

The following are definitions by the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry – The Glossary of Prosthetic Terms Ninth Edition (GPT-9)

removable dental prosthesis: removable complete or partial denture, overdenture, or maxillofacial prosthesis that replaces some or all missing teeth; the dental prosthesis can be readily inserted and removed by the patient.

fixed dental prosthesis: the general term for any prosthesis that is securely fixed to a natural tooth or teeth, or to one or more dental implants/implant abutments; it cannot be removed by the patient;

**6.**

**A survey of the other provinces legislation with respect to denturists and removable dentures.**

BC Health Professions Act Denturist Regulations

‘1. Definitions:

"complete denture" means a dental prosthesis, supported by soft tissue, that replaces the natural teeth and associated structures in an edentulous arch and is not attached to or supported by natural teeth or implants and which is **removable by the patient**;

"overdenture" means a dental prosthesis that replaces natural teeth, is **removable by the patient** and is

(a)attached to or supported by implants, or (b)attached to, supported by or covers retained roots or natural teeth;

5 (1)A registrant in the course of practising denturism may do all of the following:

(a)dispense or fit a complete denture;

**(b)subject to paragraph (c), dispense or fit a partial denture or overdenture, but only for the purpose of implementing a prescription;**

Alberta Health Professions Act

In their practice, denturists do one or more of the following:

(a) assess, diagnose and treat persons missing some or all of their natural teeth,

(b) design, construct, repair, alter and fit any complete or partial denture for the purpose of restoring and maintaining function and appearance,

(b.1) teach, manage and conduct research in the science, techniques and practice of denturism, and

(c) provide restricted activities authorized by the regulations.

The Denturist Profession Regulation was amended March 31, 2023 and “the link is coming soon.”

Manitoba Denturist Act

1 Definitions

"denturist" means a person who makes, produces, reproduces, contracts, furnishes, supplies, alters or repairs

(a) an upper prosthetic denture or upper dental plate for another person who has no live teeth in his upper jaw, or

(b) a lower prosthetic denture or lower dental plate for another person who has no live teeth in his lower jaw, or

(c) complete prosthetic dentures or complete dental plates for another person who has no live teeth in his mouth, and who, for any of those purposes, takes necessary impressions of the inside of the mouth of that other person;

Certificate of oral health required

15(2) Certificate of oral health required

 No denturist shall make, produce, reproduce, furnish or supply any prosthetic denture or dental plate for another person, or, for any of those purposes, take impressions of the inside of that other persons mouth, unless that other person produces to the denturist **a certificate of oral health respecting that other person signed by a dentist or medical practitioner**.

15(3) Prescription required

Except as provided in subsection (4), no denturist shall make, produce, reproduce, furnish or supply any prosthetic denture or dental plate for another person who has live teeth in his mouth, or, for any of those purposes, take impressions of the inside of the mouth of another person who has live teeth in his mouth, unless he does so in accordance with **a prescription signed by a dentist**.

15(4) Work authorized by regulations

 A denturist may make, produce, reproduce, furnish or supply

(a) an upper prosthetic denture or upper dental plate for another person who has no live teeth in his upper jaw; or

(b) a lower prosthetic denture or lower dental plate for another person who has no live teeth in his lower jaw;

or, for any of those purposes, take impressions of the inside of the mouth of another person, without a prescription signed by a dentist.

4. Ontario The Denturism Act

Scope of practice

**3**The practice of denturism is the assessment of arches missing some or all teeth and the design, construction, repair, alteration, ordering and fitting of removable dentures.  1991, c. 25, s. 3.

Authorized act

**4**In the course of engaging in the practice of denturism, a member is authorized, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his or her certificate of registration, to fit and dispense removable dentures.  1991, c. 25, s. 4.

5. Quebec and New Brunswick

Not able to identify the legislation or regulations defining authorizations of denturists.

6. Nova Scotia Denturists Act

Interpretations 1

(ib) “implant-bar-supported denture” means a **patient-removable denture** attached to an implant bar that may or may not be supported by tissue;

(ic) “implant-retained or tissue-supported denture” means a **patient removable denture** attached to one or more implant abutments that is also supported by tissue;

(id) “implant services” means the making, producing, reproducing, constructing, furnishing, supplying, relining, rebasing, altering, repairing of and adding to any **patient-removable denture**, if the denture is an implant-bar-supported denture or an implant-retained or tissue-supported denture

Restrictions 24

(1) No denturist in the practice of denturism may perform root planing or teeth scaling or teeth polishing or perform any act for the diagnosis or treatment of any defect of teeth, mouth or maxillae or mandible including

(d) the trying, fitting, adjusting or replacement of

(ii) **dentures fitted directly onto osteointegrated implants, where the dentures cannot be removed by the wearer,**

PEI Denturists Act

16 (2) Prohibitions Denturists

No denturist shall

(g) **try, fit, adjust or replace overdentures, prostheses fitted directly onto or attached to osteointegrated implants**;

Newfoundland Denturists Act

2 Definitions

(d) "denture" means **a removable**, fabricated substitute, or the restoration of such a substitute, for one or more natural human teeth which is **not affixed, fastened or bonded**, directly or indirectly, to natural human teeth, the maxillae, the mandible, or oral tissue, **in a semi-permanent or permanent manner so that a person fitted with such a substitute cannot**, without the assistance of a person licensed under the Dental Act **, remove and re-insert the substitute**;

**7.**

**Submission to the ministry to clarify the definition???**