



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Division of Health Professions Licensure
239 Causeway Street, Suite 500, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02114

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

JOHN W. POLANOWICZ
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LAUREN A. SMITH, MD, MPH
INTERIM COMMISSIONER

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN DENTISTRY
(617) 973-0971; (617) 973-0980 (fax)
(617) 973-0895 TTY
www.mass.gov/dph/boards/dn

Policy on the Use of Lasers in Dentistry

Please refer to the American Dental Association's statement on lasers in dentistry
<http://www.ada.org/1860.aspx>

Delegation to dental auxiliaries may only occur when both the supervising dentist and registered dental hygienist obtain proper training on the use of dental laser devices, and use the devices within their licensed scope of practice, training and experience. Guidance for the profession for safe dental laser use is provided by American National Standards Institute Standard Z136.1 Safe Use of Lasers and Z136.3 Safe Use of Lasers in Health Care Facilities. Specific training is also available from manufacturers, and via independent providers of continuing education, including professional organizations and academic institutions. Continuing education programs/presenters should address and disclose possible conflicts of interest. At the present time, the ADA's Commission on Dental Accreditation does not include laser education in its accreditation standards for dental education programs. However, proposed educational standards are available (e.g., Academy of Laser Dentistry's Curriculum Guidelines and Standards for Dental Laser Education).

Adopted by the Board April 3, 2013