



Republic of the Philippines
Professional Regulation Commission
Manila



PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF DENTISTRY
RESOLUTION NO. 03
Series of 2021

CODE OF ETHICS FOR DENTAL TECHNOLOGISTS

**SUPPLEMENT TO PRC BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 14, SERIES OF 2008,
CODE OF ETHICS FOR DENTISTS, DENTAL HYGIENISTS AND DENTAL
TECHNOLOGISTS**

ARTICLE I
DUTY TO THE COMMUNITY

Section 1 - Primary Duty

- a. A dental technologist's primary duty of serving the public is accomplished by his/her professional service to the best of his/her capabilities in accordance with established standards of care and by conducting himself/herself in a manner befitting a professional of high esteem.
- b. A dental technologist shall have the responsibility to supervise all technical procedures of dental prosthetic works in a Department of Health (DOH) accredited dental laboratory.
- c. A dental technologist's line of work entails the fabrication of dental prostheses and appliances and other dental laboratory works upon instruction of a licensed dentist with valid Professional Identification Card (PIC). Definition would dictate that a dental technologist knows all dental laboratory works and procedures. In order to render service to the public in accordance with established standards of care, a dental technologist must see to it that all requests for fabrication of any prosthesis must come from a duly registered/ licensed dentist, thus should require a properly accomplished work authorization indicating therein the license number of the dentist, student identification number countersigned by the faculty-in-charge.

- d. A dental technologist shall have full knowledge with skills in mechanical construction of dental prostheses to artificially replace one or more teeth and/or its associate structure.
- e. A dental technologist is not allowed to make impressions and/or bite registrations, centric jaw relation registration, conduct or trial fitting and/or installation or delivery of prostheses, and any other dental work that would require him/her to directly, or indirectly handle a patient undergoing dental treatment.
- f. A dental technologist's personal duty is to meet the level of professional satisfaction among themselves to provide a valued health care service and positively affecting patients' oral health and self-image. They have to deliver that significant role in the delivery of dental health care and take pride from producing a handcrafted product.
- g. A dental technologist shall indicate his/her PRC License Number as requirement for applying a license to operate a dental laboratory.
- h. As contribution to the welfare of his community, a dental technologist must abide with the Environmental Management Bureau-Department of Environment and Natural Resources (EMB-DENR) policies in order to promote a healthy clean environment to conserve natural resources.

Section 2 - Emergency Service

A dental technologist, when consulted with an emergency case by a dentist, shall assist and attend to the dental prosthesis aspect only upon receipt of the laboratory prescription or by direct supervision of a licensed dentist. He must not be involved in any procedures directly inside the patient's oral cavity.

Section 3 - Delegation of Service

A dental technologist shall conduct himself/herself in a professional manner at all times; therefore, he shall not delegate procedures, services, or operations in the DOH accredited and licensed dental laboratory which would require his/her personal competence as a professional. He/she shall only delegate services to laboratory technician who is also likewise employed with full supervision in the same DOH accredited and licensed dental laboratory to perform dental prosthetic work duly expressed by law. He/she shall at all times be responsible for the actions of his/her subordinate dental technicians under his/her direct supervision at the areas of his/her jurisdictions during assigned duty hours.

Section 4 - Supervision of Work

A dental technologist shall supervise his/her subordinates, dental laboratory technicians and other support staff of the laboratory.

A dental technologist shall supervise a maximum of twenty-five (25) dental technicians. If the dental laboratory shall have more than twenty-five (25) dental technicians, another registered dental technologist shall be employed to supervise the other remaining laboratory technicians.

Section 5 - Professional Fees

A dental technologist shall, at all times, be fair with regards to negotiating salary/compensation in exchange for his/ her services, keeping in mind the scope of the job description, own level of skill, and experience. He/she should always hold his/her work in high regard, and by doing so, establish for himself/herself an income that would provide dignity to the profession.

Section 6 - Irreproachable Conduct

- a. A dental technologist shall conduct himself/herself in a manner completely above suspicion or reproach. He/she shall not participate nor allow his/her name to be involved or associated with professional misconduct, unfair treatment of his/her subordinates, and/or criminal actions such as repetitive or multiple occurrences of fraud, mishandling of work orders, use of sub-standard materials or equipment, theft and other anomalies.
- b. A dental technologist must lead a clean and frugal life as an example to the public. He/ She must be honest and truthful in thought and in action.

Section 7 - Discoveries of Work

In the interest of public health, a dental technologist must make available his/her discoveries, inventions, or works which are useful in the technical aspect and mechanical construction of prosthetic dentistry that would eventually help in safeguarding or promoting health, subject to government regulatory laws and specifically Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9484 or the Philippine Dental Act.

Section 8 - Oral Health Care Program

A dental technologist, under the initiative and arrangement of dentist, shall participate in programs designed for oral health education and care. They shall participate in volunteer programs for the delivery of oral health services in

underserved and underprivileged areas, under the supervision and with the presence of registered/licensed dentist.

Section 9 - Leadership

In all efforts to improve the dental health of the public, a dental technologist, in proper coordination with a licensed dentist, shall lead and make himself/herself available to the community their skills, knowledge, and experience, particularly in the field of prosthetics.

Section 10 - Bioethics

Every dental technologist participating in research projects involving procedure and techniques in dental prosthetics must conform to international ethical standards taking into consideration the human rights of the subjects and duly informing them of the outcome and risks of the study. Each subject must have a signed informed consent form/s obtained at the onset of the study; and in instances where changes in the research protocol is essential for the completion of the study, another signed informed consent form must be obtained from the subjects. In the event that minors are the subjects of the study, parental consent must be obtained. If the subject is an animal, a clearance or permit should be obtained from a government agency responsible for animal welfare.

Section 11 - Records Keeping

A dental technologist must make sure that the DOH-accredited dental laboratory he/she is supervising shall obtain records of the entire client dentists work authorization, casts, jaw relation record, and other necessary materials needed for the mechanical construction of dental prosthetic work. The said records must be available anytime for checking. All job orders, laboratory prescriptions and receipts including purchase receipts must be kept for at least a period of ten (10) years.

Section 12 - Government Taxation

To be compliant with the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended, Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) Rulings pertaining to national taxes and other related laws, a dental technologist must pay all taxes and obligations due promptly and honestly.

ARTICLE II

DUTY TO THE PROFESSION

Section 13 - Keeping Professionally Fit

The right of every dental technologist to professional status rests in the degree of knowledge, skills, and efficiency with which he/she serves his/her dental laboratory, his/her dentist-clients, and his/her community.

13.1. Continuing Professional Development (CPD) - In order to continually enhance his professional competence, a dental technologist shall pursue continuing professional development programs offered by the Accredited Professional Organization (APO)/ Accredited Integrated Professional Organization (AIPO), PRC Accredited and Recognized National Association of Dental Technologists and other accredited CPD providers duly accredited by the CPD Council for dentists, dental hygienists, and dental technologists and other CPD programs duly accredited by the Professional Regulatory Board of Dentistry (Board) and the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC).

A dental technologist shall complete a minimum of thirty (30) CPD credit units every three (3) years prior to the renewal of his/her PIC, provided that the nature of the CPD programs shall conform to the advanced competency programs stipulated by the CPD Council.

13.2 Preceptorship - The Board shall directly regulate the establishment and conduct of training delivered independently by an individual or group of dental professionals, having appropriate juridical personalities. The aforementioned training must be conducted in a school / institution duly recognized by the Board.

13.3 Evidence of Professional Credentials

- a. A dental technologist's school diploma, certificate of registration, professional identification card, certificate of Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) training or school residency, certificate of proficiency issued by the PRC and such other documents, or papers required by law shall be displayed in the reception room of a licensed dental laboratory. Plaques, Testimonials, Certificates of Appreciation obtained as a result of the dental technologist's professional competency maybe displayed separately in dental laboratory's private office only.
- b. For other venues of practice, a certified true copy shall be obtained from the dental school and Certificate of Registration and PIC from PRC must be properly posted at the aforementioned areas.

Section 14 - Duty to Report

A dental technologist shall report all violations of R.A. No. 9484, its Implementing Rules and Regulations, and this Code, as may be committed by a duly licensed dental technologist, or non-licensed dental technologist (i.e. laboratory technician), and any other illegal practitioner which comes to their knowledge, to the appropriate chapter or affiliate society, the APO/ AIPO, the PRC Accredited and Recognized National Association of Dental Technologists, the Board, or the PRC. Alleged illegal dental practitioners must be treated with due respect in accordance to their primary human rights and must be presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Section 15 - Professional Consultation and Referral

A dental technologist shall seek consultation or make a referral to another dental technologist whenever a certain prosthetic case requires recourse to those who possess appropriate professional expertise. The consultant shall acknowledge the referral and shall discuss the details of the case to the referring dental technologist.

Section 16 - Professional Opinion/ Testimony

A dental technologist shall institute corrective procedure in case of faulty fabrication of dental prosthesis by another dental technologist without criticism.

16.1 Justifiable Criticism

Every dental technologist shall report to the appropriate authority or professional societies, [e.g. APO, Board/PRC], instances of gross and continual faulty procedural technical and unethical performance of other dental technologist or laboratory technician.

16.2 Responsible Criticism

A dental technologist shall at all times refrain from negatively criticizing and undermining the knowledge, skill, and the output or product of a dentist, and another dental technologist (within the association, among colleagues, or to the general public), especially if he/she does not know the facts about the case and the condition within which the product was made.

16.3 Rendering Expert Testimony

A dental technologist rendering expert testimony in cases of litigations shall limit comments to the case brought forth and avoid undue criticism to defame or discredit the other.

Section 17 - Performance of Obligations

A dental technologist shall perform in good faith and with due diligence all his/her obligations arising from agreements with dentists, dental laboratory owners, dental traders or other persons and financing institution, or other instrumentalities, so as not to undermine the prestige of the profession.

17.1 Endorsement of Products and Techniques

A dental technologist shall consider the dignity of the dental profession before providing professional opinion or endorsement of professional and/or proprietary products and techniques. A dental technologist shall not give direct testimonials or endorsement of products for the delivery of dental care.

17.2 Use of Generic Names

Generic names of the products must be used during the course of CPD activities. However, after the lecture proper the sponsoring entity may promote or indicate their branded products on table clinics or on their own exhibit booth.

Section 18 - Testimonials

A dental technologist shall consider the dignity of the dental profession before providing professional opinion or endorsement of professional and/or proprietary products and techniques. A dental technologist shall not give direct testimonials or endorsement of products for the delivery of dental care.

ARTICLE III

LABORATORY MANAGEMENT

Section 19 - Professional and Social Decorum

A dental technologist shall, at all times, conduct himself/herself in such manner befitting his/her professional status both at work and in social engagements.

Section 20 - Work Opportunity

A dental technologist must use only fair means in obtaining work or advancing his/her career (such as promotions, etc.) and must refrain from hurting the opportunities for employment/advancement of another dental technologist by issuing false claims regarding their competency.

Section 21 - Putting up a Dental Laboratory

Any dental technologist who operates or owns a dental laboratory shall always conduct himself/herself in a professional manner towards clients, colleagues, and the general public.

One (1) dental technologist is mandatory for every dental laboratory in order to manage and monitor the work of technician and staff from time to time during their duty of work.

Section 22 - Permits and Licenses

A dental technologist shall meet and secure all necessary government requirements, paperwork, permits, and clearances needed in order to obtain permission to operate legally.

Section 23 - Name of the Dental Laboratory

To give dignity to the profession, a dental technologist shall only use the term "Dental Laboratory" in reference to his practice. The name of the establishment should conform to a high level of standard and avoid commercialized or inappropriate names that might give our profession a negative image.

Section 24 - Personnel Management

A dental technologist shall practice fair management within his dental laboratory and treat his/her subordinates with courtesy and dignity expected from a professional. He/she shall abide by Philippine Government Laws at all times most especially Presidential Decree No. 442 or the Labor Code of the Philippines in order to provide growth to dental technologists, dental laboratory technicians and other employees under his care.

Section 25 - Professional Credentials

A dental technologist shall not have in his possession falsified or fraudulent papers or records regarding his/her educational attainment, achievements and/or work credentials.

Section 26 - Authorized Advertising

- a. The best and most honorable means by which a dental technologist shall make known and advance his/ her reputation for the competency and skill in the practice of dental technology is through his/ her professional conduct

in dealing with clients, colleagues and the public, and the high quality of the dental prostheses and appliances he/ she fabricates.

- b. Dental technologists are allowed to promote among licensed dentists, fellow dental technologists, dental hygienists and dental laboratory proprietors only. Thus, advertising must be limited only to the official publications and websites of the APO/ AIPO, its chapters and affiliates, associations of dental technologists and dental hygienists provided that the laboratory works are limited only to the scope of dental technology.

26.1 Signage

The signage quality must be decent, dignified and shall conform with the regulations of the DOH and Local Government Code. The size of the signage should not be more than 0.6 by 0.9 meters in ground floor. It shall not include more than the name of the dental technologist, academic degree, name of the dental laboratory, address, contact number, e-mail address and office hours. Enumeration of services and price list are strictly not allowed. Incremental 10% increase in size in all dimensions could be allowed above ground floor location of the laboratory.

26.2 Use of Professional Titles and Degrees

A dental technologist shall use only the title "RDT", in connection with his/ her name or signature.

26.3 Professional Stationery

A dental technologist shall identify himself/herself, as dental practitioner in DOH accredited dental laboratory, only in the following manner:

26.3.1 Cards, Letterheads and Announcements

A dental technologist may properly utilize professional cards and letterheads where the style and text are consistent with the dignity of the profession.

26.3.2 Professional Cards

They must be of traditional size and type and shall not include more than the name of the dental technologist, academic degree, PIC Number, name of the dental laboratory, address, contact number, e-mail address and office hours.

26.3.3 Telephone and other Directories

A dental technologist may authorize the listing of his/her name in a telephone or other directory.

26.3.4 Electronically Generated Communications

The simple and dignified means of professional announcement shall apply to all electronically generated communications, specifically directed to licensed dentists, fellow dental technologists, dental hygienists and dental laboratory proprietors only; provided, it is in consonance with the provisions of the Code of Ethics.

26.3.5. Multimedia Advertising

A dental technologist shall not directly endorse his laboratory skills and services in multimedia such as in tv, radio, billboards, print advertisements and broadsheets; nor give an impression that a dental laboratory directly serves patients, nor claiming that he/she is the best and having the most advanced dental laboratory.

ARTICLE 4

MEMBERSHIP IN THE DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Section 27 - Membership and Financial Support

A dental technologist shall be active member of the following: 1. APO/ AIPO of dentists, dental hygienists, and dental technologists duly recognized by the Board and accredited by the PRC; 2. the *bona fide* Dental Chapter of the association within area of his/her practice; and 3. The Accredited and Recognized National Association of the Dental Technologists. His/her membership requires membership fees in reasonable amount fixed by the associations and chapter.

ARTICLE 5

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Section 28 - Judicial Committee

Violation of this Code and the interpretation of any provision thereof may be resolved in the first instance by the Judicial Committee of the Chapter or Affiliate Society and the Accredited and Recognized National Association of the Dental Technologists, or at the relation of any person under oath. The President of the PRC Accredited and Recognized National Association of Dental Technologists shall consult the APO/AIPO President who shall endorse to or file with the Board the committee's findings for administrative action.

Section 29 - Sanctions

The Board, even without endorsement or complaint filed by the APO/AIPO and Accredited and Recognized National Association of the Dental Technologists, shall conduct the administrative investigation pursuant to existing rules thereof upon complaint of a person, natural or juridical, or *motu proprio*, and shall accordingly,

impose the disciplinary action of the nullification or suspension of the Certificate of Registration and PIC of the registered dental technologist, should the respondent be found guilty under Section 22, Article III of R.A. No. 9484 for violation of this Code or Section 22 (a) for unprofessional and unethical conduct, after due process.

ARTICLE 6

SEPARABILITY, REPEALING, EFFECTIVITY CLAUSES

Section 30 - Separability Clause

If any section or provision of this Code shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such declaration shall not affect any other section or provision of this Code.

Section 31 - Repealing Clause

All other Codes, issuances, rules, regulations, or orders on the conduct or behavior of registered and licensed Dental Technologists and of any other association related to Dental Laboratory Technology in conflict with any section or provision of this Code shall be modified or repealed accordingly.

Section 32 - Effectivity

This Resolution shall take effect immediately following its full publication in the official Gazette or any newspaper of general circulation.


Done in the City of Manila this **8th** day of **March** 2021.

CARLITO D. PARAGAS
Officer-in-Charge

MELINDA L. GARCIA
Member

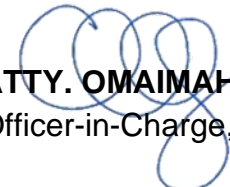
ROBERTO M. TAJONERA
Member

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DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE
DAILY TRIBUNE : March 13, 2021
DATE OF EFFECTIVITY : Imemdiately