

Chapter 272

(House Bill 1121)

AN ACT concerning

Health Occupations – Dental Hygienists – ~~Community Oral Health and Wellness Act~~ Provision of Services at a Community-Based Health Fair

FOR the purpose of authorizing a licensed dental hygienist, without the supervision of a dentist, ~~to volunteer without compensation to provide certain services in any setting;~~ without compensation at certain community-based health fairs; requiring the Board of Dental Examiners, in consultation with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Office of Oral Health, to develop a certain form; requiring a certain dental hygienist to complete and submit a certain form to the Office of Oral Health under certain circumstances; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the practice of licensed dental hygienists.

BY adding to

Article – Health Occupations
Section 4-308.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health Occupations

4-308.1.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH FAIR” MEANS A HEALTH SERVICE EVENT THAT OFFERS PRIMARY HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO AN INDIVIDUAL FOR FREE OR USING A SLIDING FEE SCHEDULE THAT IS SPONSORED BY:

(1) THE FEDERAL, THE STATE, OR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT;

(2) A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT IS EXEMPT FROM TAXATION UNDER § 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE; OR

(3) A NONPROFIT COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION THAT HAS THE STATED PURPOSE OF PROVIDING HEALTH SERVICES TO THE DISADVANTAGED.

(B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS TITLE, A LICENSED DENTAL HYGIENIST, WITHOUT THE SUPERVISION OF A DENTIST, MAY ~~VOLUNTEER WITHOUT COMPENSATION TO~~ PROVIDE WITHOUT COMPENSATION THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ~~IN ANY SETTING~~ AT A COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH FAIR:

(1) ~~ORAL HEALTH SCREENINGS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS FOR DENTAL CARIES, PERIODONTAL DISEASE, AND HEAD AND NECK CANCER~~ A PRELIMINARY DENTAL EXAMINATION, INCLUDING CHARTING ANY CAVITIES, RESTORATIONS, OR MISSING TEETH;

(2) ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION;

(3) ~~A REFERRAL TO A DENTAL HOME, AND FOLLOW UP WHEN POSSIBLE, THAT SERVES ALL POPULATIONS, INCLUDING LOW INCOME OR SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATIONS;~~ TAKING BLOOD PRESSURE, PULSE RATE, RESPIRATION RATE, HEIGHT, AND WEIGHT; AND

(4) ~~FLUORIDE VARNISH TREATMENTS BEGINNING WITH TOOTH ERUPTION FOR INDIVIDUALS AT MODERATE OR HIGH RISK FOR TOOTH DECAY, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH OF THE DEPARTMENT, A LICENSED DENTIST, OR A LICENSED PHYSICIAN; AND~~ REFERRALS TO A DENTAL HOME, INCLUDING PROVIDING A PATIENT WITH A LIST OF CLINICAL PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES.

(5) ~~WELLNESS ASSESSMENTS THAT INCLUDE:~~

(i) ~~BLOOD PRESSURE, PULSE, AND RESPIRATION;~~

(ii) ~~HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS;~~

(iii) ~~DIET AND NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING; AND~~

(iv) ~~A REFERRAL TO A MEDICAL HOME, AND FOLLOW UP WHEN POSSIBLE, THAT SERVES ALL POPULATIONS, INCLUDING LOW INCOME OR SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATIONS.~~

(C) (1) THE BOARD, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH, SHALL DEVELOP A STANDARD FORM TO BE USED BY A DENTAL HYGIENIST WHO PERFORMS THE SERVICES AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION AT A COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH FAIR.

(2) A DENTAL HYGIENIST WHO PERFORMS SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION SHALL:

(i) FILL OUT THE FORM REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR EACH PATIENT WHO RECEIVED SERVICES FROM THE DENTAL HYGIENIST; AND

(ii) SUBMIT THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2013.

Approved by the Governor, May 2, 2013.