

Dental hygiene clinics and mobile practices

Increasing access to oral care



For those who are unable to travel, are restricted financially or need in-home oral health care, dental hygienists can work independently and the public can choose how and where they want to receive their preventive oral care.

As a result, dental hygienists are opening their own private clinics and mobile practices that take their services to the client.

As well as improving public access to oral care, the cost for professional services provided by independent dental hygienists may be considerably lower than those same services provided in a traditional dental office.

Dental hygienists are regulated health-care professionals. They must follow strict standards of practice set by their regulatory college to ensure the public receives safe and ongoing comprehensive oral care.

To locate a dental hygiene clinic or mobile practice, check the local directory or visit the ODHA website at www.odha.on.ca.

A welcome shift in proactive oral health care

With a focus on prevention and the growing scientific evidence linking good oral health to overall health, dental hygienists are valued partners in Ontario's health-care system. Independent dental hygienists are a key component in the delivery of health-care services, ensuring the public has access to affordable oral care and treatment.

Work settings

Independently run clinics and mobile practices are located in many city centres and rural settings across Ontario. Dental hygiene services are extremely important for long-term care and group homes, community health centres, the sick and homebound, low-income families, the uninsured and underserved communities.

A pathway to good health

All dental hygienists are concerned with promoting good oral health. As valuable members of the oral health-care team, they have a distinctive clinical and educational role in recognizing, treating and managing oral diseases.

Bacteria from oral infections are often the source for a variety of health-related problems. A healthy mouth is essential for good general health and well-being. Wherever dental hygienists work, they remain committed to educating their clients about the body-mouth connection.

Maintaining good oral health requires collaboration. Dental hygienists confer with other health-care professionals – including dentists, physicians, nurses, dietitians and pharmacists – and make referrals when appropriate.

Dental hygienists – Your partners in oral health

