

## **REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL CHANGE**

AGENCY: Board of Dental Examiners

RULE CITATION: 21 NCAC 16O .0402

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 8, 2021**

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

*In (a), line 5, I am simply asking – do you need to retain “at least”? Generally, the use of “at least” or “at a minimum” are not favored in rules, as rules set the floor. However, if you need to retain it here, that’s fine.*

*In (a)(2), line 8, what is a “special emphasis”?*

*In (a)(6), line 15, should “cardiopulmonary” be one word here?*

Please retype the rule accordingly and resubmit it to our office at 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609.

1 21 NCAC 16O .0402 is amended as published in 36:01 NCR 6-7 as follows:

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3 **21 NCAC 16O .0402 EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

4 (a) A Dental Assistant may aid and assist a licensed dentist in the monitoring of nitrous oxide-oxygen inhalant sedation  
5 by completing a Board-approved course totaling at least seven hours that covers the following topics:

- 6 (1) definitions and descriptions of physiological and psychological aspects of pain and anxiety;
- 7 (2) the states of drug-induced central nervous system depression through all levels of consciousness and  
8 unconsciousness, with special emphasis on the distinction between the conscious and unconscious  
9 state;
- 10 (3) respiratory and circulatory physiology, and related anatomy;
- 11 (4) pharmacology of agents used in the nitrous oxide techniques being taught, including drug interaction  
12 and incompatibility;
- 13 (5) patient monitoring, with particular attention to vital signs and reflexes related to consciousness;
- 14 (6) prevention, recognition, and management of complications and life threatening situations that may  
15 occur during the use of the nitrous oxide techniques, including cardio pulmonary resuscitation;
- 16 (7) description and use of ventilation sedation equipment; and
- 17 (8) potential health hazards of trace anesthetics, and proposed techniques for elimination of these  
18 potential health hazards.

19 (b) Courses approved to satisfy the educational requirements of this Rule shall be provided and taught by:

- 20 (1) an instructor who is a dentist holding an unrestricted license as defined by 21 NCAC 16A .0101(7);
- 21 (2) an instructor licensed pursuant to 21 NCAC 16B .0701; or
- 22 (3) a dental hygienist or dental assistant under the direction of an instructor who satisfies the  
23 requirements of Subparagraph (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this Rule, who shall be physically present and  
24 administer nitrous oxide if it is administered in the course.

25 (c) Courses shall be reviewed at any Board meeting and approved by a majority of the Board to satisfy the educational  
26 requirements of this Rule. A list of approved courses is available on the Board's website at [www.ncdentalboard.org](http://www.ncdentalboard.org).

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28 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-29(b)(6); 90-29(c)(10); 90-29(c)(13); 90-48; 90-223;*

29 *Eff. July 16, 1980;*

30 *Amended Eff. April 1, 2016; May 1, 1989;*

31 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9,*  
32 *~~2018-2018;~~*

33 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2021.*