

Kansas Facts

Extended Care Permits



Kansas Extended Care Permit (ECP) for dental hygiene services became law in 2003:

**K.S.A. 65-1456
(f) & (g)**



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FACTS

- There has been a steady decline in the number of dentists in Kansas over the past several decades, and an increase in the number of hygienists.
- Extended Care Permits (ECP) allow dental hygienists to provide services in community settings, ensuring preventive care for certain vulnerable populations who are not currently receiving service and those in underserved areas.
- Extended Care Permits (ECP) allow experienced hygienists to provide services in community settings, increasing oral hygiene care for all who are not currently receiving service and those in underserved areas.
- The law provides the opportunity for dental hygienists registered in the state of Kansas to provide the following community-based hygiene services:
 - *removal of extraneous deposit stains, stains, and debris from the teeth*
 - *the application of fluoride*
 - *dental hygiene instruction*
 - *assessment of the patient's need for further evaluation by a dentist*
 - *other duties which may be delegated verbally, or in writing, by the sponsoring dentist which are in compliance with this act*
- Dentists, who hold a valid Kansas license, may monitor up to five hygienists. Sponsoring dentists are not obligated to examine or treat patients seen by an ECP hygienist.
- The dentist and hygienist must have a written agreement spelling out the conditions of the extended care permit hygiene service. The hygienist must send a report to the sponsoring dentist documenting findings and treatment within 30 days of service.

RESOURCES AND EDUCATION:

- ECP services are funded by several sources: Medicaid reimbursement, patients' fees for service, and community funds. Hygienist's fees are paid by dentists or sponsoring organizations. ECP hygienists may volunteer their services, but most ECP services are on a fee-for-service basis. Participating hygienists have the option to work full or part-time in a dental clinic or community setting.
- Oral Health Kansas, Inc. (OHK) Extended Care Permit Initiative has developed an ECP ToolKit, which will soon be available to hygienists, dentists, and community organizations. The ToolKit provides information about the laws governing ECP, sample agreements for sponsoring organizations, financial plans, and self-assessments for hygienists exploring the possibility of ECP hygiene services.