



The Secret Behind North Carolina's Dental Practice Environment

North Carolina is a great place to practice. That's because the NC Dental Society listens when you say you value advocacy. Here's how we are protecting you and your patients.



PROTECTING The Practice Of Dentistry

Any person who owns, manages or practices must be a licensed North Carolina dentist.

- *The NC Dental Society championed North Carolina law that states only licensed dentists can own, manage, control or supervise a dental practice.*
- *We believe dentists, not for-profit companies, should always be in charge of patient care.*



PROTECTING Your Education And Training

You remain the leader of the dental team, limiting the legal practice scope for hygienists.

- *The NC Dental Society continually lobbies for strong supervision and patient protection rules to ensure the highest quality of care is delivered in North Carolina.*
- *We remain one of the few states that do not allow hygienists to diagnose oral conditions, treatment plan, prescribe fluoride, administer anesthesia unsupervised or provide sealants/prophylaxis without examinations by a dentist.*



PROTECTING The Scope Of Your Impact

North Carolina dentists may use teledentistry to provide care to children and adults from the mountains to the coast, enabling access to care regardless of distance or setting.

- *With a commitment to improving access to care, the NC Dental Society championed the teledentistry bill.*
- *We advocated for properly trained hygienists to administer local dental anesthetic under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist, increasing access to care and efficiency in your office.*



PROTECTING You From Insurance Games

The Dental Bill of Rights ensures both dentists and patients are protected from insurance overreach, and dentists can set the fees most appropriate for their practice.

- *The NC Dental Society stopped insurance companies from dictating fees for dental procedures not covered by a patient's plan, empowering you to set prices appropriate for your practice.*
- *We successfully fought for the North Carolina law that requires insurance companies to notify dental offices of fee schedule changes, claims submission requirements and reimbursement policies, thus enabling transparency for you and your patients.*



PROTECTING You From Exorbitant Taxes

Our efforts stopped the expansion of sales tax to professional services, so the treatment and care you provide patients is not taxed.

- *The NC Dental Society stopped a sales tax on dental treatment and care, helping you maintain affordable patient fees and minimizing barriers in accessing care.*
- *Our Dental Bill of Rights also prohibits insurance companies from requiring payment via virtual credit cards, enabling you to avoid additional processing fees and giving you the freedom to collect payment however you prefer.*



PROTECTING Your Patients

We have maintained funding for adult dental services through Medicaid, keeping patients out of costly emergency rooms and providing definitive treatment for oral health concerns.

- *The NC Dental Society continually fights to ensure state funds are used for patient care.*
- *Each and every legislative priority keeps patients, not commercial profit, at the forefront.*

North Carolina's healthy practice environment didn't happen by accident. It's not any of these individual claims that makes us unique, but the collection of them all. The NC Dental Society continues to fight for you and your patients.