PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR LICENSE BY MARCH 31, 2015.

NOTICE OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR DISPENSING
Effective July 1, 2015, all dentists who dispense controlled substances in Schedule II (Percocet, Hydrocodone), Schedule III (Tylenol with Codeine), or Schedule IV (Valium) must be registered with the Prescription Monitoring Program and must begin reporting the drugs dispensed within 7 days of dispensing. If a dentist does not dispense these products he may apply for a waiver from this reporting requirement. There is a box in this year’s dental license renewal forms to report whether you currently do or do not dispense Schedule II, III or IV controlled substances. Detailed information on the action each licensed dentist is required to take to register or to apply for a waiver will be sent out around April 1, 2015. Here are links for more information:

- The waiver form may be found at: [http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dhp_programs/pmp/pmp_forms.asp](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dhp_programs/pmp/pmp_forms.asp)
- Information on how to report to the program is found at: [http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dhp_programs/pmp/docs/VADataReportingManualv1_6.pdf](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dhp_programs/pmp/docs/VADataReportingManualv1_6.pdf)

The US Drug Enforcement Administration published a Final Rule in the Federal Register placing hydrocodone combination products into Schedule II effective October 6, 2014. For details, direct questions to your local DEA Field Office and review sections 18VAC110-290 and 18VAC110-310 of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Pharmacy using this link: [http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/Pharmacy/leg/Pharmacy_12312014.doc](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/Pharmacy/leg/Pharmacy_12312014.doc).

SEDATION AND GENERAL ANESTHESIA OFFICE INSPECTIONS
In November 2014, the Board initiated inspections of the dental practices where conscious/moderate sedation, deep sedation or general anesthesia is administered to facilitate dental treatment. The purpose of instituting periodic unannounced inspections is to foster and verify compliance with the regulatory requirements for patient safety and treatment records as well as the laws and regulations governing environmental conditions and drug security. Use this link to read Guidance Document 60-3, [http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dentistry/guidelines/60-3.doc](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dentistry/guidelines/60-3.doc), which addresses the scope of the inspections and implementation of the process.

LEGISLATION TO PROHIBIT FEE SPLITTING WAS NOT ADVANCED
The Board’s legislative proposal to prohibit fee-splitting was not approved by the Governor for submission to the 2015 General Assembly. The Board proposed the legislation to address concerns reported by the Virginia Dental Association and many individual dentists about the advertising and promotional practices of dentists who offer rebates, prizes, or other forms of compensation in return for patient referrals. Under current law, complaints about such fee splitting activities are investigated to determine if the offer for compensation made by a dentist or to a dentist was in any way false, deceptive or misleading or it failed to disclose important information.
OPEN FORUMS TO BE SCHEDULED
The Board will hold two forums this year to gain insight into areas under consideration for policy action. The first forum will address: adjusting the education and endorsement requirements for dental assistant II registration; creating a pathway for dental hygienists to perform the reversible intraoral procedures which are delegable to dental assistants II; and expanding the options for dental hygienists to practice under the remote supervision of a dentist. The second forum will address the appropriate uses of and requirements for teledentistry. The Board encourages your participation in the forums and looks forward to receiving comments and recommendations which will facilitate a thorough review of each of the topic areas. To receive notice of the date and time of each of these forums, please send an e-mail request to be added to the Board’s Public Participation List to denbd@dhp.virginia.gov.

THE REGULATIONS GOVERNING DENTAL PRACTICE ARE BEING REORGANIZED INTO FOUR CHAPTERS
The Board adopted the four chapters as final regulations at its March 7, 2014 meeting. These chapters are pending approval by the Governor to be published as final regulations. The four chapters are:

- 18VAC60-15 Regulations Governing the Disciplinary Process in Dentistry
- 18VAC60-21 Regulations Governing the Practice of Dentistry
- 18VAC60-25 Regulations Governing the Practice of Dental Hygienists
- 18VAC60-30 Regulations Governing the Practice of Dental Assistants II.

Changes that will apply to dentists include but are not limited to:
- New sections on scope of practice and general responsibilities to patients
- Requiring that patient records be maintained for not less than six (6) years from the last date of service
- Requiring consent for treatment

Changes that will apply dental hygienists include but are not limited to:
- Patient record responsibilities
- Topical oral anesthetics may be applied when practicing under general supervision
- Non-surgical laser may be used in scaling, root planning and/or gingival curettage under indirect or general supervision


GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS (GD)
The Board issues Guidance Documents to provide information on correctly applying or implementing statutes or regulations governing the practice of dentistry. Recently adopted and revised documents are:

GD 60-3 – Periodic Inspection of Dental Offices for Administration of Anesthesia and Sedation addresses the scope and to implement the periodic office inspections for permit holders. JACHO accredited hospitals are exempted from inspection.

GD 60-5 – Policy on Sanctioning for Failure to Meet Continuing Education Requirements was revised to reflect the current practice of having one person review a case for probable cause and the practice of offering pre-hearing consent orders in certain cases.

GD 60-17 – Policy on Recovery of Disciplinary Costs has been updated to base the costs to be recovered on the actual expenditures in SFY 2014.

GD 60-20 – Guidance on Radiation Certification continues the Board’s policy to allow persons who qualified to take x-rays by completing a radiation safety course and examination and registering with the board prior to May 11, 2011 to continue to take x-rays.

Visit http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/dentistry/dentistry_guidelines.htm to review these documents and the full list of available documents.

DISCIPLINARY CASE DECISIONS
Visit http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/enforcement/cdecision/boardresults.asp?board=4&send=View to see the recent Orders issued by the Board to licensees.

DENTISTRY WORKFORCE DATA REPORTS
Visit http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/hwdc/default.htm to review the reports released by the Healthcare Workforce Data Center on its findings from the surveys completed by dentists and dental hygienists that did their 2014 renewals online.

- Visit www.dhp.virginia.gov/dentistry to find meeting information, minutes and regulations.
- E-mail denbd@dhp.virginia.gov with questions or to get on the mailing list for Board activities.
- Register with the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall at www.townhall.virginia.gov to receive e-mail notices on the status of the Board’s regulatory activities.

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