

Principles for Legislation on Dentists as Vaccine Administrators

The American Dental Association (ADA) supports recognizing dentists as COVID-19 vaccine providers¹ as one strategy to increase patient and public access to vaccinations, thus improving the public's overall vaccination rate, as well as relieving some of the burden on the current vaccine provider network.

To aid state associations in advocating for this expansion of the scope of practice for the profession, the ADA has identified concepts that could be included in such legislation.

- Licensed dentists may prescribe and administer authorized COVID-19 vaccines² to a person with whom the dentist has established a patient relationship.
- Licensed dentists may prescribe and administer authorized COVID-19 vaccines² to any person when engaged to do so by the appropriate jurisdictional regulatory body, as necessitated by an emergency.
- Licensed dentists administering vaccines shall comply with all applicable record-keeping or reporting mechanisms for vaccine administration, tracking and adverse event occurrence as established by any federal, state or local regulatory body.
- Licensed dentists administering vaccines shall utilize proper vaccine delivery protocols and storage requirements as established by any regulatory oversight body and the manufacturer of the vaccine being administered.
- Licensed dentists seeking to administer vaccines shall successfully complete training in proper vaccine administration, contraindications to vaccination delivery and proper response to any adverse vaccination reactions, as specified by the state board of dentistry, prior to administering any vaccines.
- Dentists administering vaccines will be considered health care personnel under state COVID-19 immunity statutes.

¹ Please note: there may be an opportunity to pursue authorizing dentists to provide other vaccines in your state.

² Authorized COVID-19 vaccines means, for these purposes, those vaccines which have received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), as well as those which receive full approval from the FDA in the future.

³ Ibid