

A Registered Dental Hygienist Is Highly Educated

- They attend a college or university based 2 or 4 year nationally recognized program
- Studies include:
 - **Anatomy and Physiology**
 - **Chemistry**
 - **Oral & General Biology**
 - **Nutrition**
 - **Pathology**
 - **Pharmacology**
 - **Radiology**
 - **Periodontics**
 - **Microbiology**
 - **Pain Control**
 - **Community Dental Health**
 - **Hands-on Clinical Skills**
 - **The Relationship between oral and general health**

Mission Statement

The mission of the Nevada Dental Hygienist's Association is to improve the public's total health; to advance the art and science of dental hygiene by ensuring access to quality oral health care, increasing awareness of the cost-effective benefits of prevention, promoting the highest standards of dental hygiene education, licensure practice, and research, and representing and promoting the interests of dental hygienists.

Vision Statement

Our promise to the public we serve:

Dental hygiene is an integral component of interdisciplinary health care designed to improve the total health of the public. Cognizant of the profession's responsibilities in education, licensure, practice, research and ethics, dental hygiene's promise to all people is to provide and ensure access to quality, cost effective, preventive and therapeutic oral health care.

Nevada Dental Hygienists' Association

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A Registered Dental Hygienist Could SAVE YOUR LIFE



What Is An RDH. . .

Registered Dental Hygienist

The Registered Dental Hygienist may be one of the most important people in your life. Recent studies linking periodontal disease and complications of heart disease, diabetes, and preterm birth deliveries have made the relationship between a healthy mouth and a healthy body more important than ever.

Dental hygienists achieve their degrees by attending two or four year accredited hygiene programs. The American Dental Association sets and maintains accreditation standards upheld by professionals serving on evaluation teams.

The study of dental hygiene encompasses many subjects including anatomy, chemistry, biology, and hands-on clinical practice. Strong emphasis is placed on the impact medications and diseases have on the oral cavity as well as the patient's overall health.

Your Registered Dental Hygienist Can Provide The Following Treatments

- Review and update your medical health history, including current medications.
- Take and review x-rays as ordered by the dentist.
- Screen for oral cancer and abnormalities.
- Evaluate for and educate about periodontal disease (gum disease).
- Provide cleanings and root scaling (deep cleaning).
- Determine appropriate schedule for dental hygiene visits.
- Place medicines around the teeth to control disease.

In addition, your Registered Dental Hygienist can provide

- Fluoride to strengthen the teeth
- Injections prior to dental hygiene or dental procedures
- Dietary assessment
- Tobacco use cessation counseling
- Oral health education
- Dental sealants to prevent decay

Your Registered Dental Hygienist is looking out for your health!

Hygienists must pass a written National Board Examination before graduation and a practical examination before licensure. The Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners regulates the number of hours of continuing professional education each year in order to maintain a dental hygiene license.

To assure you are being treated by a licensed dental hygienist, question his/her credentials and licensure status. It is everyone's right to receive quality oral health care from a competent, licensed professional.