COLLEGE OF
ALBERTA DENTURISTS

Position Statement

Denture Design

October 14, 2026

Position

Denturists are ultimately responsible for the design of dentures for patients under their care. A denturist may have a staff member who is not a regulated healthcare professional, but who is appropriately knowledgeable and trained, design a patient's denture (the "designer").

To justify this delegation, the denturist must provide to the designer

- rigorous oversight and appropriate assistance; and
- clear, written technical instructions and specifications for the denture design.

Further, the denturist

- performs a comprehensive inspection of the appliance throughout its fabrication to verify it meets all safety, hygiene, and functional standards prior to delivery;
- remains fully and legally accountable for the final product and patient care; and
- retains sole responsibility for all intraoral procedures, including try-ins, final adjustments, insertions, and subsequent adjustments to ensure proper fit and patient comfort.

The process, and applicable parties, must be appropriately documented in the patient's record.

Background

Schedule 8 of the *Health Professions Act* declares the practice statement for the profession of denturism.

> **Practice**
> **3** In their practice, denturists do one or more of the following:
> (a) assess, diagnose and treat persons missing some or all of their natural teeth,
> (b) design, construct, repair, alter and fit any complete or partial denture for the purpose of restoring and maintaining function and appearance,
> (b.1) teach, manage and conduct research in the science, techniques and practice of denturism, and
> (c) provide restricted activities authorized by the regulations.
> RSA 2000 cH-7 Sched. 8 s3;2008 c34 s23

Denture production involves both clinical steps (patient interaction, impressions, bite registration, fitting) and technical/laboratory steps (pouring models, waxing, flasking, processing, and finishing). Delegating technical fabrication allows the denturist to

focus their specialized clinical expertise on patient care while optimizing clinic operations.

A non-regulated individual does not carry independent professional liability or licensure. By retaining ultimate accountability, sign-off by the denturist is the definitive step in quality assurance by inspecting and approving every phase of production before the appliance is delivered to the patient.