

Sponsoring Organizations

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
NEUROLOGY

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ORAL
AND MAXILLOFACIAL
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AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
OTOLARYNGOLOGY —
HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
PHYSICISTS IN MEDICINE

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL
SURGEONS

AMERICAN ORTHOPAEDIC
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COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY

SOCIETY OF NUCLEAR
MEDICINE AND MOLECULAR
IMAGING

RADIOLOGY
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Michael Herrmann, Executive Director

New York State Dental Association

mherrmann@nysdental.org

Dear Mr. Herrmann, and New York State Dental Association and the New York State Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons:

This letter responds to your letter representing the New York State Dental Association and New York State Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons' questions and concerns regarding the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission's (IAC) requirements for accreditation.

In response to the concern regarding the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission's (IAC) requirements governing dental assistants' ability to perform Cone Beam CT examinations in New York State. Specifically, addressing IAC Dental CT Standard 1.3.1.2A, which states:

"A dental assistant or dental hygienist state license or state certification, or authorization by the state radiation control/protection department, and in compliance with the state dental board regulations."

Under N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. Tit. 10 § 89.30, which identifies individuals who are exempt from licensure requirements for operating a Cone Beam CT unit in New York, a dental assistant may perform Cone Beam CT examinations under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. The regulation also requires that the dental assistant complete appropriate scanner training.

Based on this regulation, unlicensed dental assistants who are authorized under New York's radiation control requirements and who are operating in compliance with applicable state dental board regulations satisfy the qualifications established in IAC Dental CT Standard 1.3.1.2A. Accordingly, these individuals are eligible to operate a Cone Beam CT scanner in an IAC-accredited dental practice in New York State.

In response to the concern regarding the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission's (IAC) recommendation of an annual volume of 300 CT examinations as a proficiency benchmark. This is not a benchmark of proficiency,

merely a guideline that also states that lower volumes of scanning should not dissuade a dental practice from seeking accreditation. **The IAC has does not require an annual minimum number of exams performed to achieve or maintain accreditation.**

The IAC apologizes for any confusion that the wording of the above Standard and recommendation may have caused. We appreciate the opportunity to clarify our interpretation and remain committed to supporting New York dental practices as they work to meet the accreditation requirements.

To assist practices throughout the accreditation process, the IAC offers a variety of complimentary resources, including personalized application guidance, sample documentation, educational webinars, and direct staff support. It is the IAC's goal to provide an interactive, cost effective, and supportive approach to accreditation for practices of all sizes that ensures that becoming accredited is an achievable way to assure safe, quality care to patients.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with the leadership of the New York State Dental Association and the New York State Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons to discuss these resources in greater detail, address any remaining questions, and explore ways we can work together to support successful implementation of the accreditation standards.

We look forward to building a collaborative relationship with the New York dental community to advance safe, high-quality imaging for patients throughout the state.

Sincerely,

Tanya Tolpegin
Chief Executive Officer
Intersocietal Accreditation Commission

Nancy Davis
Director of Accreditation
Intersocietal Accreditation Commission