



ORAL HEALTH IN MICHIGAN

SB 1013: Training Dental Therapists

CODA Accreditation

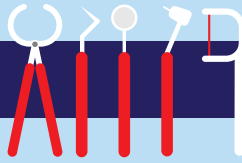
NATIONAL ADA/CODA ACCREDITED PROGRAMS



In August 2015, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA), the **ACCREDITING BODY** housed within the **AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION** for **DENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS**, implemented standards for dental therapy education programs. CODA accreditation means a program has achieved a **NATIONALLY ACCEPTED LEVEL OF SAFETY AND QUALITY**. **SB 1013** requires students to graduate from a CODA accredited program.



USING BEST PRACTICES



Dental therapy students are held to the **SAME STANDARDS** as those studying to become dentists. They take the same classes as dental students and must **DEMONSTRATE THE SAME COMPETENCIES** on the procedures they are trained to provide.

SB 1013 allows universities in Michigan the autonomy to **DEVELOP CURRICULUM** and establish entry criteria for students as outlined in CODA's **DENTAL THERAPY STANDARDS**.

The **MICHIGAN BOARD OF DENTISTRY** will create the board examination and licensure for dental therapists (DT).

Q. Can midlevel providers “drill and fill” directly out of high school?

A. NO The skills needed to be a dental therapist in Michigan would **REQUIRE GRADUATION** from a **CODA ACCREDITED** college or university—three academic years, as well as passing a state licensing exam. Under **SB 1013** DTs would be required to complete 500 clinical practice hours under the direct supervision of a dentist.



To learn more about how dental therapists can help provide access to care visit MIDentalAccess.org.

The Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health (MCMCH) is partnering with other statewide organizations to improve oral health and access to dental care in Michigan by promoting evidence-based, cost-effective policy solutions. To contact us, please email info@midentalaccess.org or call 517-482-5807.