

## CARIES DETECTION DEVICES

Preamble: The purpose of this policy is to clarify the position of the Ohio State Dental Board regarding the use of alternative light emitting devices for assessment of dental caries by dental auxiliary personnel.

Until recently, dental caries detection has been determined through the use of radiographs, explorers and visual assessment. Diagnosis of fissure caries is difficult especially when the tooth surface appears seemingly intact.

It is the Board's position that devices which utilize light amplification as assessment tools for incipient or sub-surface caries fall within acceptable procedures performed by dental auxiliaries pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code Section 4715-3-01(N)(1)(g) which states:

(N) Tasks and/or procedures categories:

- (1) "Basic remediable intra-oral and extra-oral dental tasks and/or procedures are defined as thos which do not create irreparable changes within the oral cavity...  
...
- (g) Caries susceptibility testing.

Therefore, it is the Board's position that use of this type of technology may be used by dental auxiliary personnel in order to assist the employing dentist in determining dental caries.

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