



## Standard of Practice: Professional Collaboration

### Preamble

Coordinated, collaborative health care serves the best interests of patients. Collaboration ensures that treatment is coordinated and effective, reduces the chance of conflicting, inconsistent or unnecessary treatment, and reduces the likelihood of patient confusion arising from the receipt of conflicting information or advice.

It is common for denturists to collaborate with other health care professionals, particularly oral health care providers. Professional collaboration empowers denturists to participate in a circle of care that provides positive patient outcomes in oral health care.

The intent of this Standard is to describe the College's expectations of denturists working in collaborative health care teams.

### The Standard

A denturist meets the Standard of Practice: Professional Collaboration when they:

1. Use a wide range of communication and interpersonal skills to effectively establish and maintain positive professional relationships.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of, and respect for, the roles, knowledge, expertise, and unique contributions by other members of a health care team in the provision of quality care and service.
3. Share knowledge with other members of a health care team to promote the best possible patient outcomes.
4. Collaborate with the patient and other members of a health care team in the provision of treatment.
5. Refer patients to other service providers when appropriate.
6. Resolve concerns about an order or treatment plan by:
  - a. Discussing the concern directly with the appropriate health care professional when consent is provided by the patient;
  - b. Providing a rationale and best practice evidence in support of the concern;
  - c. Identifying outcomes desired for the resolution of the concern; and
  - d. Documenting in the patient record the concern and any steps that were taken to resolve the concern.

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