

(1 February 2008 – to date)

DENTAL TECHNICIANS ACT 19 OF 1979

(Gazette No. 6360, Notice No. 585 dated 21 March 1979. Commencement date: 1 June 1979 [Proc. No. R115, Gazette No. 6467, dated 1 June 1979])

THE SOUTH AFRICAN DENTAL TECHNICIANS COUNCIL REGULATIONS UNDER THE DENTAL TECHNICIANS ACT 19 OF 1979

DIRECT CLAIMING OF FEES FOR PAYMENT BY PATIENTS OR MEDICAL AID SCHEMES TO DENTAL TECHNICIAN CONTRACTORS FOR DENTAL LABORATORY WORK DONE

Government Notice R87 in Government Gazette 30698, dated 1 February 2008. Commencement date: 1 February 2008

The Minister of Health has, in terms of Section 32(2) read with Section 50(1) of the Dental Technicians Act, 1979 (Act 19 of 1979), and the recommendation of the South African Dental Technicians Council, made the regulations in the Schedule.

SCHEDULE

1. Definitions

In this schedule, unless the context otherwise indicates, any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the above-mentioned Act shall bear that meaning.

"**Act**" means the Dental Technicians Act, 1979 [Act 19 of 1979] as amended;

"**contractor**" means a dental technician contractor registered as such under the Act;

"**dentist**" means a person registered as such under the Health Professions Act, 1974 [Act 56 of 1974] and who submits work pertaining to the profession of a dental technician for manufacturing, re-structuring or repair to a contractor;

"**fees**" shall mean fees for work done and prescribed in the gazetted tariff of fees;

"**LA number**" means laboratory registration number;

"**patient**" means the person under dental treatment with a dentist;

"Medical Aid Scheme" shall mean a medical scheme registered or exempt in terms of the Medical Schemes, 1998 (Act No. 131 of 1998); and

"VAT" means Valued Added Tax.

2. Claiming of fees

Every registered dental technician contractor owning a dental laboratory that is registered in terms of section 30 may from the date of signature of this notice be entitled to directly claim fees from the patient or medical aid scheme for professional services rendered.

3. Work-slips

- (1) Every dentist must complete in duplicate consecutively numbered work-slips for all dental work to be completed by the contractor on behalf of the patient together with full details and information about the patient.
- (2) The work-slip must contain the following information: -
 - (a) name and address of contractor;
 - (b) dental laboratory registration number of contractor;
 - (c) date of issue of technical work ordered by the dentist from contractor;
 - (d) name, address and identity number of patient or dependent;
 - (e) surname and initials of the principal member of a medical scheme;
 - (f) medical aid number and details of medical scheme;
 - (g) description of technical work required; and
 - (h) name of a dentist who provided the service and practice number.
- (3) The contractor shall not carry out any clinical work directly or indirectly on the patient other than the technical work specified by the dentist in the work-slip. The dentist shall have overall responsibility for the patient's clinical course of treatment.
- (4) The dentist shall submit the work-slip to the contractor and retain one copy.

- (5) Any written work-slip that a dentist submits to the contractor for the manufacturing, re-structuring or repair of any dental work shall be kept by the contractor for a period of at least three years from the date of completion of a technical work.
- (6) On completion of the technical work, the contractor shall deliver the completed technical work in accordance with the work-slip to the dentist, accompanied by an original invoice and two copies of such "invoice.

4. Invoices

- (1) Invoices issued by the contractor shall be in quadruplicate and shall contain the following information: -
 - (a) name, address and telephone number of contractor;
 - (b) dental laboratory registration number;
 - (c) VAT registration number of a dental technician contractor, where applicable;
 - (d) dental laboratory practice number;
 - (e) date of invoice;
 - (f) name of a dentist who provided the service and practice number;
 - (g) surname, initials and address of principal member of a medical scheme;
 - (h) surname, initials and address of patient;
 - (i) name of patient's medical scheme;
 - (j) relevant dental technologist code numbers relating to the technical work; and
 - (k) the nature and cost of each relevant service rendered.

Methods of reimbursement for contractor

5. Contractor recovering fees directly from the patient or medical aid scheme

- (a) The dentist shall furnish the contractor with the original invoice, duly signed on completion of the clinical work.

- (b) The dentist shall retain the second duplicate copy of the invoice for a minimum of three years from the date of completion of the clinical work.
- (c) The contractor shall keep copies of invoices for a minimum period of three years from the date of completion of the technical work.
- (d) A receipt shall be issued by a contractor to the patient for all payments received and a duplicate thereof shall be retained by the contractor.

Signed

MINISTER OF HEALTH

DATE: 12.1.2008