

A Dental Hygienists Responsibility Around Vaccine Hesitancy

Dental hygiene practice is guided by science and scientific evidence. As health professionals focused on prevention and evidence-based practice, dental hygienists have a professional obligation to support the public health strategies that are implemented by the Provincial Health Officer, regardless of personal belief or bias.

BCDHA recognizes that some dental hygienists may choose not to receive a vaccine for personal, religious or other reasons, however, dental hygienists should not use their personal convictions to try to sway clients or patients toward sharing their viewpoint. Dental hygienists have a professional and ethical responsibility to uphold their practice standards by speaking from the science supporting public health measures such as vaccines.

Through decades of scientific research and evidence, we know that vaccines are an effective, safe, transformative and life-saving intervention. BCDHA respects the right of an individual to make an informed choice about their own health, however, we strongly advise all dental hygienists to refrain from sharing their personal opinions regarding vaccinations with their patients.

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