



College of Alberta Dental Assistants

166-14315 118 Ave NW
Edmonton AB T5L 4S6

780-486-2526
1-800-355-8940
780-486-2728 fax

www.abrda.ca

Position Statement

First Aid

The College of Alberta Dental Assistants strongly recommends that all registered and provisional dental assistants who are employed in a patient treatment environment obtain and maintain, at minimum, training in Emergency First Aid.

Rationale

As professionals in the health care industry, dental assistants are responsible for providing safe and competent care to their patients. The potential for medical emergencies in a patient treatment environment exists due to the increased risks involved in clinical treatment settings including, but not limited to, elevated stress levels and the use of anaesthetics which may result in syncope, hyperventilation, seizures, and allergic reactions. It is in the best interest of the patients and the entire dental health team if dental assistants, with proper training, are capable of providing care and/or assisting during an emergency situation. The College of Alberta Dental Assistants therefore views it as a professional responsibility of each registered and provisional dental assistant who is employed in the aforementioned environment to obtain and maintain, at minimum, formal training in Emergency First Aid.