

At the August 20, 2021 Board Meeting the Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD) established a new standing Committee named the “Dental Therapy Rules Oversight Committee” per ORS 679.280, to create, amend, review and discuss the implementation of dental therapy rules with the passage of HB 2528 (2021). This historic piece of legislation was signed by Governor Kate Brown on July 19, 2021.

This new Committee is being created because the OBD seeks a dedicated and focused group of committee members to draft new dental therapy rules in a deliberate, fair and equitable manner for the OBD to consider. This Committee will also consider cost of compliance and racial justice issues as well with the development of these rules.

The Dental Therapy Rules Oversight Committee shall be comprised of three current OBD Board Members, one who will serve as the Chair of the Committee.

The Committee shall include three representatives from the Oregon dental therapy community or organizations that represent dental therapists in Oregon. The Committee members must reside or work in Oregon and the OBD President will select the three members if more than three people volunteer to serve on this Committee. Ideally, Oregon licensed dental therapists will serve on this Committee in the future once licenses are issued.

The Committee shall include one representative from the Oregon Health Authority, ideally the Dental Director or their designee. This is to leverage their experience with dental pilot projects.

The Committee will also include one representative from each of the professional associations: The Oregon Dental Association, The Oregon Dental Hygienists’ Association and the Oregon Dental Assistants Association.

All Committee meetings will be held virtually unless conditions allow for safe in person meetings. All OBD Committee and Board meetings are public meetings.

The Legislature requires that the OBD adopt rules necessary to administer certain provisions of the new legislation. In adopting rules, the board shall consult with dental therapists and organizations that represent dental therapists in Oregon.

The public, dental therapy communities and all interested parties can take part in the implementation of the new dental therapy rules as they will be subject to the OBD’s public rulemaking process.

Chair, Yadira Martinez, RDH - OBD Representative
Sheena Kansal, DDS - OBD Representative
Jennifer Brixey - OBD Representative
Kaz Rafia, DDS OHA - Representative
Brandon Schwindt, DMD - ODA Representative
Amy Coplen, RDH - ODHA Representative
Ginny Jorgensen, CDA - ODAA Representative
Miranda Davis, DDS - DT Representative
Kari Douglass - DT Representative
Jason Mecum - DT Representative

Inaugural meeting held October 7, 2021 from 5 pm – 7 pm
Second meeting held November 10, 2021 from 5 pm - 7 pm
Third meeting held December 8, 2021 from 5 pm - 7 pm
Fourth meeting held January 19, 2022 from 5 pm - 7 pm
Fifth meeting held February 23, 2022 from 5 pm - 7 pm