

Professional Growth and Development (PGD)

1. Understand, practice and promote the ADHA Code of Ethics.

- 1.1 Apply a professional code of ethics and values in all endeavors.
- 1.2 Adhere to the Georgia Dental Hygiene Practice Act as well as other applicable state and federal laws governing the practice of dental hygiene.
- 1.3 Employ quality assurance health care mechanisms in order to ensure a high standard of care for all patients.

2. Promote the dental hygiene profession through career growth, development, and commitment to lifelong learning.

- 2.1 Acquire and synthesize information or literature critically, scientifically, and effectively and apply it to the practice of dental hygiene.
- 2.2 Demonstrate an understanding of the dental hygiene profession and its professional organizations.
- 2.3 Acquire an understanding of the need for continuing education courses and/or higher education that demonstrates a commitment to lifelong learning and career growth.

Community Involvement (CM)

3. Interact with others to promote activities that protect, restore, and improve oral health for all populations.

- 3.1 Assess needs, plan, implement, and evaluate outcomes of community based oral health programs.
- 3.2 Provide screening, referral and/or educational services that facilitate access to the health care system for all people.

Patient Care (PC)

4. Assess, plan, implement and evaluate treatment in the promotion of oral and systemic health using an evidence-based approach.

- 4.1 Systematically collect, analyze and record data on the general, oral and psychosocial health status of a variety of patients (child, adolescent, adult, and geriatric) using methods consistent with medico-legal principles.

- 4.2 Employ critical decision-making skills to formulate and/or present an individualized dental hygiene treatment plan based on available data.
- 4.3 Provide specialized treatment that includes preventive, educational and/or therapeutic services designed to achieve and maintain oral health.
- 4.4 Provide quality, safe and comfortable dental hygiene care for patients with special needs and those from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- 4.5 Identify patients at risk for a medical emergency and manage their care in a manner that prevents an emergency.
- 4.6 Evaluate the effectiveness of the implemented therapeutic, educational and/or preventive services and modify as needed.

Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (HP)

5. Initiate and assume responsibility for health promotion and disease prevention activities.

- 5.1 Promote the values of total health and wellness to the public and organizations within and outside the profession.
- 5.2 Identify individual and/or population risk factors and develop strategies that promote health and prevent disease for all people.