

Denturist Education

Bates Technical College is a six semester Associate's Degree program

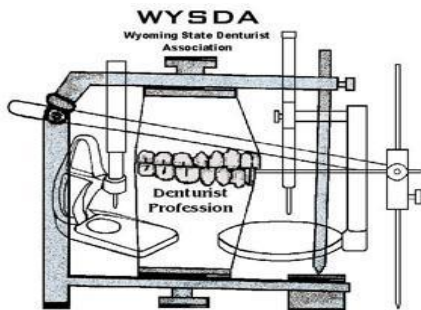
- Located in Tacoma, Washington, USA
- Only accredited college in the United States to offer denturist training program
- <http://www.bates.ctc.edu/page.asp?view=153>

George Brown College is a three-year accredited denturist training program

- Located in Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- <http://www.georgebrown.ca/Marketing/FTCal/hsci/S101.aspx>

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) Denturist Program

- <http://www.nait.ca/>



Courses

Denturist program curriculum for Bates and George Brown College includes

- Orofacial anatomy
- Physiology
- Microbiology
- Embryology
- Histology
- Oral pathology
- Infection control
- Pharmacology
- Emergency care
- Ethics/Jurisprudence
- Nutrition
- Gerontology
- Radiology
- Periodontology
- Denture laboratory technology
- Practical /Clinical procedures

Sources

International Federation of Denturist

- <http://internationaldenturist.org/denturism.html>

National Denturist Association

- <http://www.nationaldenturist.com/>

Oregon Denturist Association

- <http://www.ordenturist.org/>

Washington Denturist Association

- <http://www.wadenturist.com/>

“Social Justice: A Public Health Imperative”

Denturist: Alternative Midlevel Healthcare Providers for Oral Health Screenings and Referrals



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Coordinator for the Wyoming State Denturist Association

Gary W. Vollan is a graduate of the US Navy dental Technician “A” School in 1971 and a two year dental technician program at Seattle Central Community College in 1980. He graduated from The Oregon Denturist College in 1992 and the IDEC Denturist Program at George Brown College in 2003, in Toronto. He was licensed as an Oregon State Denturist after taking the state board in 1992 and has maintained that license with CE requirements. Gary is a student at the University of Wyoming and works at a dental clinic in Wyoming as a dental assistant, certified in radiology and as a denture laboratory technician.

Please see www.wysda.org for copy of paper which contains references and credits regarding the above information.

What's the Problem

- Disparities
- Shortage of dentists
- American Dental Association Policies
- High dental care cost due to dentists overhead
- Rural America

Disparity Barriers

Many people are desperate for oral health care but don't receive care for a variety of reasons listed;

- Economics
- Disabilities
- Location
- Substance Abuse
- Homelessness
- Appearance
- No insurance
- Ineligible for Medicaid

People with no health insurance are less likely to receive medical care, dental care, and prescriptions.

The Facts and Stats

- Adults age 20 to 64 have an average of 24.92 teeth remaining.
- 3.75% of adults 20 to 64 have no teeth remaining.
- Seniors over 65 have an average of 18.90 teeth remaining.
- 27.27% seniors over 65 have no teeth remaining.

Facts and Stats Cont'd.

- Older adults facing barriers don't make use of dental services.
- Seniors living in rural America are more likely to have poor oral health and limited access to dental care.

American Dental Association Discrimination Policies to Discourage Competition

- Discrimination against denturists and denturism (1976:868; 2001:436)
- Opposition to denturist movement (2001:436)
- ADA guidelines to preclude the sale of dental supplies to denturist
- ADA financial aid to support the above

Steps to Improving Access to Oral Healthcare

- Promote and apply [denturist] programs that have demonstrated effective improvement in access to care.
- Ensure an adequate number and distribution of culturally competent providers [denturist] to meet the needs of individuals and groups, particularly in health-care shortage areas.
- Make optimal use of oral health care providers [denturist] in improving access to oral health care.

How Can Denturists Help

- They free up dental chairtime for emergencies and children.
- Denturists are a safe alternative denture delivery service.
- They are well educated professionals who have been trained and educated to provide oral health and denture care.
- Denturists deliver to all segments of the public including people with disparities.
- They provide affordable denture care to people who would otherwise do without.
- Denturists serve nursing homes and other institutions.

Social Justice Conclusions and Goals; Moving Society toward Optimal use of its Health Professionals

- The ADA needs to recognize independent practices for denturists, dental health aide therapists, and dental hygienists for better access to affordable oral health and dental care.
- Denturists provide alternative models of oral health care, referrals and denture care delivery.
- To eliminate disparity barriers we need to train and educate health care professionals to have more empathy.
- More allied health professional schools.
- More community dental clinics.

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