



NMRLD

NEW MEXICO
REGULATION &
LICENSING DEPARTMENT

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR
Linda M. Trujillo, Superintendent
John Blair, Deputy Superintendent

January 29, 2021

RE: NMBODHC Statement of Dentist Administration of COVID-19 Vaccinations

The NM Board of Dental Health Care discussed at the regular board meeting on October 16, 2020 that administering vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic is within the dentist scope of practice. The board agreed that it was permitted with no objections. The citation from statute is as follows:

61-5A-4. Scope of practice

A. As used in the Dental Health Care Act, "practice of dentistry" means:

(1) the diagnosis, treatment, correction, change, relief, prevention, prescription of remedy, surgical operation and adjunctive treatment for any disease, pain, deformity, deficiency, injury, defect, lesion or physical condition involving both the functional and aesthetic aspects of the teeth, gingivae, jaws and adjacent hard and soft tissue of the oral and maxillofacial regions, including the prescription or administration of any drug, medicine, biologic, apparatus, brace, anesthetic or other therapeutic or diagnostic substance or technique by an individual or the individual's agent or employee gratuitously or for any fee, reward, emolument or any other form of compensation whether direct or indirect;

The board again discussed the issue at the regular board meeting on January 29, 2021, and further confirmed that administration of COVID-19 vaccinations is within dentists' scope of practice.

