

*Discover the road to
better quality dental products!*



*The ADA Standards Committee
on Dental Products (SCDP)
develops specifications for
dental materials,
infection control products,
dental equipment,
dental instruments and more!*



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The ADA helps create better quality dental products through standards

Purchasing quality dental products requires informed decision-making based on accurate and relevant information.

The ADA develops standards for dental products through the ADA Standards Committee on Dental Products (SCDP). The scope of the SCDP is:

"Nomenclature, standards and specifications for dental materials, except those recognized as drugs or dental radiographic film. Nomenclature, standards and specifications for dental instruments, equipment and accessories used in dental practice, dental technology and oral hygiene that are offered to the public or the profession. Orthodontic, prosthetic, and restorative appliances designed or developed by the dentist for an individual patient are excluded."

Each ANSI/ADA specification is written by dedicated volunteer experts in a specific working group. These specifications are written to improve safety and health, create greater comparability and interoperability of products, enhance quality and reliability and more.

The standards committee serves as the consensus body that approves all proposed standards, which are forwarded to ADA councils for approval as ADA standards and to ANSI (American National Standards Institute) for approval as American National Standards. The ADA has been an "ANSI Accredited Standards Organization" since March 2000.

The Structure of the ADA SCDP

The SCDP is comprised of thirty-eight voting and two liaison members from twenty-seven organizations from the profession, dental industry, academia and the government. The actual standards development occurs in its eight subcommittees and sixty working groups. These subcommittees are restorative materials and orthodontics, prosthodontic materials, terminology, dental instruments, dental equipment, dental implants, oral hygiene products, and infection control products.

Each working group address specific topics and provide an opportunity for all interests to participate in the development of voluntary consensus standards.

Subcommittee 1, restorative and orthodontic materials, addresses such topics as alloy for amalgam, composite resins, dental cements and orthodontic wires.

Subcommittee 2, prosthodontic materials, addresses such topics as impression materials, artificial teeth, crown and bridge resin, and porcelain and metal-ceramic systems.

Subcommittee 3, dental terminology, addresses communications for dental terminology, definition of new terms and harmonization of dental codes and abbreviations.

Subcommittee 4, instruments, addresses such topics as endodontic instruments, hand instruments and rotary instruments.

Subcommittee 6, equipment, addresses such topics as dental amalgamators, dental chairs, units and stools and amalgam separators.

Subcommittee 7, abrasives and oral hygiene devices, addresses such topics as powered oral hygiene devices, manual toothbrushes and abrasive pastes.

Subcommittee 8, dental implants, addresses such topics as the biological, physical and chemical aspects of implants.

Subcommittee 9, barrier products for dental infection control, addresses such topics as air and water treatment systems and gloves.

For more information on the ADA SCDP, please visit: <http://sitedscape.ada.org/SCDP>. To view the published standards available, please visit: www.adacatalog.org. Please submit any questions to: standards@ada.org.



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The graphic features a background image of a hand holding a dental instrument over a computer keyboard, with a large white arrow pointing from the text towards the website URL.