

Checklist: AI Adoption for Dental Hygienists

INTRODUCTION

This checklist is for Dental Hygienists who are considering adopting Artificial Intelligence (AI) in practice and accompanies the [AI Practice Guideline](#). It helps ensure ethical, professional and legally compliant integration of AI technologies into oral healthcare delivery.

INITIAL ASSESSMENT

- Do I understand the purpose, function and intended use(s) of the AI tool?
- Does the intended use align with mine and the client's needs and/or improve health outcomes?
- Is there credible evidence, such as research or performance data, of the tool's effectiveness?

PRIVACY, SECURITY & COMPLIANCE

- Do I understand how the AI tool handles personal health information?
- Does the AI tool comply with privacy legislation (PIPEDA and PHIPA)?
- Have I avoided entering identifiable personal information into public AI tools?
- Are appropriate security measures in place to safeguard against privacy breaches?
- Have I considered how to mitigate potential risks of bias, error or inaccuracy in the tool's outputs?

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Am I maintaining my professional obligations outlined in legislation, standards and ethical codes?
- Have I identified strategies to avoid overreliance on AI?
- Am I using my professional judgment when reviewing AI outputs?
- Can I confidently document, explain and justify AI use with clients?
- Have I considered alternatives for clients who do not consent to AI use?

ONGOING MONITORING, EDUCATION & TRAINING

- Have I completed adequate training on the appropriate use of the AI tool?
- Am I monitoring changes in AI regulation, privacy laws and practice?
- Have I evaluated cost implications, including licensing, training and maintenance?
- Are there appropriate usage and risk mitigation strategies within my office policies?

FINAL DECISION: SHOULD I ADOPT THE AI TOOL IN MY PRACTICE?

- Do I feel confident that all identified risks are mitigated to an acceptable level, consistent with professional obligations outlined in legislation, practice standards and ethical codes?
- Are client rights, safety and privacy fully protected?
- Does the tool enhance, not replace, my professional judgment?