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TSBDE  
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RCEV

General Council TSBDE:

This letter is to address the request for input on local anesthesia for RDH in Texas. I do have some thoughts and suggestions to share. I took a local anesthetic course in Arizona in 1986 and administered block and infiltration injections safely and without any patient complications for 25 years. I know that I can confidently administer them even today after practicing in Texas for the last 17 years so in consideration of the many RDH that have taken courses in other states the board might consider grandfathering in those who take a refresher course but not require to take the initial course again.

My suggestions for curriculum come from an RDH that teaches local anesthetic courses and is considered the leading voice in anesthesia dental education for the RDH. I will share her information at the end of this letter. She teaches the initial certification course for the Oregon State Certification.

15 lecture hours delivered online over 4 weeks. Must have a passing grade on test to take clinical portion.

6 hours clinical instruction delivered in a 1-day period.

Emergency office procedure course at each license renewal required to maintain certification.

A CE class for local anesthesia at each renewal required to maintain certification.

Course objectives should be as follows:

1. Identify anatomical structures and neural pathways for the purpose of oral local anesthesia.
2. Identify and safely use armamentarium required for local anesthesia.
3. Explain the pharmacological factors of the most common anesthetics used in dentistry.
4. Identify and manage adverse systemic and local complications associated with local anesthetics.
5. Demonstrate competence in administering local anesthetics for injections used in dentistry.

I would recommend this RDH as a contact resource for curriculum development or course presenter. I take her online refresher courses and they have excellent and relevant content.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Rhonda Freese RDH

