

The answer is  
---- “DENTAL TECHNOLOGISTS”

## Who is a Dental Technologists?

A Dental Technologist is a regulated health care professional registered with the *College of Dental Technologists of Ontario (CDTO)* to practise dental technology within the framework of the *Regulated Health Professions Act* and the *Dental Technology Act*.

The legislation allows dental technologists to autonomously perform the full scope of dental technology practice and to supervise the technical aspects of dental laboratory operation.

## Who is an RDT?

At times, a dental technologists is also called an “*RDT*”, “*registered dental technologists*”, or “*registered dental technician*”, or “*dental technician*”.

*It is illegal for anyone other than a member of the College of Dental Technologists of Ontario to use any of the above mentioned titles or its abbreviation or variation.*

## What is the scope of dental technology practice?

The practice of dental technology is the design, construction, repair or alteration of dental prosthetic, restorative and orthodontic devices.

## How do I benefit from the services of dental technologists?

You will be sure that he/she is competent and is capable of providing high standards of service.

A practising dental technologist holds a *general certificate of registration* issued by the CDTO.

To qualify for registration, the person must:-

- pass the CDTO registration examination;
- practise according to the laws that govern health professionals in the province;
- practise according to the standards and the qualities set by the CDTO;
- continually updates his/her knowledge, skills and competency.

## Where do dental technologists practise?

Dental technologists usually work in dental laboratories, independent of dentists’ offices. Some work in institutions such as universities, colleges and hospitals that offer dental technology services.

Unless your dentist operates an in-house laboratory, he/she will send your impression, together with the prescription to the laboratory of a dental technologist, where the design and/or fabrication, repair of the prescribed prosthesis takes place.

While working in separate locations, dental technologists and dentists work closely together as a team. Dentists rely on dental technologists’ professional judgment in the filling of prescriptions, including:

- assessing and interpreting prescriptions;
- consulting to jointly consider changes that are beneficial to the patient;
- determining the shape and contours, material and methods of production.

## Do I ever need to see a dental technologists?

You may need to contact the dental technologists direct, when

- your dentist refers you to a dental laboratory to have the colour of your crown verified;
- your dentist calls upon a dental technologist to provide technical assessment and assist him/her in planning a procedure.

## How do I know that a dental technologist is registered with the College?

Ask him/her for the current year registration certificate issued by the CDTO. The certificate clearly shows the dental technologist’s name, registration number and the expiry date of the registration.

You may also wish to contact the CDTO at (416) 438-5003. The CDTO maintains a register of all currently registered dental technologists in Ontario.

### **What is the function of the College of Dental Technologists of Ontario?**

The mandate of the College is to serve and protect the public by monitoring and regulating the practice of the dental technologist profession within the Regulated Health Professions Act and the Dental Technology Act.

### **How does the College of Dental Technologists work?**

The College Council, comprising 7 dental technologists elected by the profession across Ontario, and 6 public members appointed by the Ontario government, sets policies and provides leadership and directions. All Council meetings are open to the public.

Through its various permanent committees, the College carries out its various responsibilities, such as:

- setting qualifications for entry to practice and administering the registration examination;
- registration of qualified dental technologists;
- setting and overseeing practice standards and ethical behaviour of dental technologists;
- investigation of complaints;
- holding disciplinary hearings when necessary;

- ensuring continuing competency of the profession;
- interaction with the general public and the profession.

For Information about the practice of dental technology in Ontario, please contact:



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