



Standard Practice for Managing Sustainability in Dentistry¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This practice provides a set of generally recognized activities governing management of sustainability in dentistry and related dental service practice and a management system framework that assists dentists and dental service organizations to enhance their respective organizational performance and effectiveness. It offers an integrated framework to managing social, economic and environmental aspects of an organization's activities. While this practice is intended to be adopted and used by dental professionals and dental service organizations of any size and specializations including those being a part of large healthcare service organizations, the scope of this practice addresses the expectations of and is relevant to dental service provider organizations' stakeholders.

1.2 This practice is intended to be used with pertinent dental office management principles and guidance documents published by professional dental association in which dental services are delivered.

1.3 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *BS Standard:*²

BS 8900-1:2013 Managing sustainable development of organizations—Part 1: Guide

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 *context of dental service organization, n*—business environment; combination of internal and external factors and conditions that can have an effect on dental service organization's approach to its dental service, investments, and stakeholder.

3.1.2 *dental professional, n*—individual person who provides and performs dental services within a dental service organization.

3.1.2.1 *Discussion*—Within the context of this practice, dental professional may include dentists, registered dental assistants, licensed oral hygienists, dental technicians, and dental laboratory technicians.

3.1.3 *dental service, n*—intangible output that is the result of at least one activity or procedure necessarily performed at the interface between the dental professional and his/her patient.

3.1.4 *dental service organization, n*—person or group of people holding proper and recognized dental service accreditation, license, or certification that has its own functions with responsibilities, authorities, and relationships to achieve its objectives.

3.1.5 *evidence-based dentistry, n*—approach to oral health care that requires the judicious integration of systematic assessments of clinically relevant scientific evidence relating to the patient's oral and medical condition and history with the dentist's clinical expertise and the patient's treatment needs and preferences.

3.1.6 *management system, n*—set of interrelated or interacting elements of a dental service organization to establish policies, objectives, and processes to achieve those objectives.

3.1.7 *policy, n*—intentions and direction of a dental professional or a dental service organization as formally expressed by the person or group of people who directs and controls its dental service activities at the highest level.

3.1.7.1 *Discussion*—Throughout this practice, “activity” is used to refer collectively to activities, products, and services rendered through or directly by a dental professional or an affiliated dental service provider organization.

3.1.8 *sustainability, n*—degree of sustainable development in the context of a dental professional or dental service organization.

3.1.9 *sustainable development, n*—development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

3.1.9.1 *Discussion*—Sustainable development is about integrating the goals of a high quality of life, health, and prosperity with social justice and maintaining the earth's capacity to support life in all its diversity. These social, economic, and

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² Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.