

TOOTHFULLY. *speaking*



Illegal Dentistry

Dr. Preety Desai Why are “unlicensed dentists” taking it upon themselves to commit physical abuse (i.e. practise dentistry) without a license?

To practice dentistry in BC, candidates must complete a Canadian dentistry program, be registered with the BC College of Dental Surgeons and pass either the National Dental Examination Board of Canada (NDEB) or the National Dental Specialty (NDSE) exams.

According to WelcomeBC, foreign dentists hoping to practice in BC must complete a full-time, two-year qualifying program or degree completion at an accredited Canadian university, as well as registering with the college, and completing either the NDEB or the NDSE. As an alternative, dentists educated abroad can have their training assessed through an equivalency process, undergoing three assessments before taking the NDEB written exam and Objective Structured Clinical Examination.

Potential candidates must compete and qualify for dental school after 2-4 years of undergraduate science. Dental school is a grind with over 6400 hours of classroom scientific education, hands on training and clinical patient treatment. Graduate school adds another 4200 hours of specialty education and training. In addition, we have to keep up at least 30 hours of professional upgrade education per year as a bare minimum - while most that I know are well above that.

All dentists take an oath to protect the public and do no harm during our graduation ceremony - i.e. the Hippocratic oath. As such, it is absolutely obscene and offensive that a foreign dentist who either failed the NDEB examinations or did not bother to take the exams, taking it upon themselves to buy everything off of eBay and run a full fledged business and go to town!

Protecting the public means having the proper skills (learned in school), up to date knowledge (continually upgrading) and owning the correct equipment (i.e. x-rays) to diagnose properly and perform dentistry with universal precautions (i.e. proper sterilizers and barrier techniques) to keep everyone safe.

Just because a dental clinic (like many in Mexico and Central America) looks modern and up to date in the reception area - is no indication of following guidelines and regulations of infection control and sterilization of equipment. Certainly none of the raided Vancouver clinics even bothered to have anything more than rubbing alcohol to wipe blood off of their instruments - this is definitely akin to a criminal offense - infecting an innocent person with HIV and hepatitis on purpose!

Sterilization involves either pressurized heat and steam or chemicals that kill bacteria and viruses in a contained space - death of the most resistant bacteria in spore format are killed such as hepatitis, HIV and venereal disease.

So when you are visiting your dentist next, understand that at least 6400 hours of their life has gone into keeping you safe and healthy!



Laser Implant Periodontal

SPECIALIST

t. 778.471.6001

a. 101-775 McGill Rd, Kamloops

www.kamloopsperiodontist.com