Negative Impacts of the CSG/ADA Compact

What would happen if the CSG/ADA Compact became reality?

- The CSG Compact will lower the licensure standards of 44 of 53 US jurisdictions.

  The CSG Model Legislation will allow untested dentists and dental hygienists to practice\(^1\). The requirement of a “clinical assessment” as defined by the CSG does not require any testing of licensure candidates, merely an undefined “process.” Currently, nearly every US state requires an independent hand-skills examination as one component in its requirements for licensure.

  ADEX examination failures from select documented PG-Y1 licensed candidates shown here\(^2\).

  Clearly, hand-skills examinations protect the public from harm as unqualified professionals are not licensed.

- Public health will be increasingly endangered if the quality of professionals diminishes.

  The CSG Compact will allow unvetted practitioners to become licensed and move around more freely. It isn’t unreasonable to expect poorly-skilled dentists and dental hygienists to choose to become licensed in a state that does not require a hand-skills
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exam then, with Compact Privilege, practice in a CSG Remote State without a license direct from and outside of the jurisdiction of that state's board.

As the numbers of these untested persons in practice grows, more and more patients will be treated by lesser and lesser regulated providers. Public health is in jeopardy.

States won’t know who is practicing dentistry in their jurisdiction, or have authority over Compact Privilege holders.

State statutes restrict a board's jurisdiction to those persons to whom a license is issued. Member (Remote) States do not issue licenses. Instead, CSG Compact Privilege alone is an authorization to practice(3).

Despite the language outlined in the CSG Compact Legislation, stating that boards retain authority over Compact Privilege holders, statutes simply don’t allow it. Boards may not know who is performing dentistry in their state, nor will they have authority over them.

As explained in the CSG FAQ’s, local licensure is only required for specialists. Additionally, providers are not required to maintain a license where they live.

Access to care is hurt, not helped by the CSG compact.

The Council of State Governments claims access to care will be improved with their compact. But will it really? Institutions graduate a set number of qualified dental professionals annually. The pool of licensed professionals will not increase because a compact exists.

Instead, the CSG compact may entice dental practitioners to practice elsewhere. Unlike the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact on which the AADB Dental and Dental Hygiene Licensure Compact was modeled, the CSG’s compact does not establish a home-state principle. It also does not require providers to be licensed in their state of residency.

Providers can be expected to manipulate Compact Privilege to skirt established rules and regulations, thus shifting the workforce into and out of states and cities nationwide where quality care is needed (for employment opportunities).

Ask Us

how to update your planned legislation to better protect patients, your state and your board.

1. Dental and Dental Hygienist Compact, Model Legislation §3B, §3D (2023); 2. Images courtesy The American Board of Dental Examiners, ADEX; Subject to all applicable copyright laws, not for duplication; 3. Dental and Dental Hygienist Compact, Model Legislation §2G (2023).