

Guidelines for Approving Laboratory Prescription Forms

The following were design guidelines for developing the standard prescription form.

1. Form must have fields for the following critical data:
 - Patient's name
 - Date of prescription
 - Dentist's name and address
 - Dentist's license number
 - Laboratory name (Address is optional since dental office will have on file.)
 - Return / due date
 - Type of prosthesis

2. If the form is intended for fixed prosthodontics (crowns and bridges):
 - a. There must be fields to allow for shade prescription:
 - Posterior teeth (molars and bicuspids) must have a field to allow prescription of at least one shade.
 - Upper anterior teeth (cuspids and incisors) should be represented by a drawing to allow shade mapping.
 - There must be a field to allow recording of the shade guide used.
 - b. There must be a field to allow for prescription of pontic design for bridges.
 - c. There must be a field to allow for material prescription.

3. If the form is intended for removable prosthodontics (partial and complete dentures):
 - There must be opportunity for the dentist to communicate the design of a partial denture framework. This could be line drawings representing teeth in each arch (upper and lower jaw) to allow the dentist to draw the design for a removable partial denture framework. It could be fields to define the major connector design, and location of rest seats, guide planes, and clasps.
 - There must be a field to allow for shade prescription.
 - There must be a field to allow for tooth material prescription.
 - There must be a field to allow for tooth mold (shape) prescription.
 - There must be a field to allow recording of shade guide used.

4. If the form is to be used for orthodontics (retainers or removable or fixed orthodontic prostheses) or occlusal splints (bite plates to protect teeth or treat TMJ problems):
 - There must be opportunity for the doctor to explicitly define the type of prosthesis. This can be a checklist or blank space that would enable the doctor to write.
 - There must be opportunity for the doctor to define explicit instructions! This can be a checklist or blank space that would enable the doctor to write.

5. All forms should allow the doctor space to write explicit instructions.