



American National Standard/  
American Dental Association  
Specification No. 46

# Dental Patient Chair

Modified adoption of ISO 6875:1995, Dental patient chair.

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**AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION SPECIFICATION NO. 46 FOR DENTAL PATIENT CHAIR**

The Council on Scientific Affairs of the American Dental Association has approved revised American Dental Association Specification No. 46 for Dental Patient Chair. This and other specifications for dental materials, instruments and equipment are being formulated by working groups of the ADA Standards Committee on Dental Products (formerly Accredited Standards Committee MD156 for Dental Materials, Instruments and Equipment). The Committee has representation from all interests in the United States in the standardization of materials, instruments and equipment in dentistry. The Council has adopted the specifications, showing professional recognition of their usefulness in dentistry, and has forwarded them to the American National Standards Institute with a recommendation that the specifications be approved as American National Standards. The American National Standards Institute granted approval of ADA Specification No. 46 as an American National Standard April 2004. It becomes effective April 2005.

The Council thanks the working group members and the organizations with which they were affiliated at the time the specification was developed:

Howard Roberts (Chairman), USAF Dental Investigation Service, Great Lakes, IL; Daniel Leonard, Mission St. Joseph Hospital, Asheville, NC; Jeff Zawada, A-Dec Corporation, Newberg, OR; George Szalony, Pelton & Crane Corporation, Charlotte, NC; and Ed Holland, Dental-EZ, Inc., Bay Minette, AL.

**AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD  
AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION  
SPECIFICATION NO. 46 FOR DENTAL PATIENT CHAIR**

**FOREWORD**

(This Foreword does not form a part of the Revised ANSI/ADA Specification No. 46 for Dental Patient Chair).

This revision is a modified adoption of the ISO 6875:1995, Dental Patient Chair. The ADA SCDP Working Group examined the standard and found it acceptable for adoption as a revision of ANSI/ADA Specification No. 46, with the following modifications:

**4 Classification**

Changed "electrically operated" to "electrically powered," here and throughout document.

**5.1.1.5**

Removed section on patient comfort and personnel ergonomics.

**5.1.3 Operating controls**

Revised to state "where applicable and reasonable."

**7.2.2 Armrest**

Changed the wording from "a mass of 220 N" to "a force of 220 N."

**8 Manufacturer's information**

Revised to state, "The information in 8.1 to 8.3 shall be contained in documents which accompany the dental patient chair or which are otherwise provided by the manufacturer upon request."

**9.4 Symbols**

Revised to state "where applicable and reasonable."

**AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD/AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION  
SPECIFICATION NO. 46 FOR DENTAL PATIENT CHAIR**

**1 SCOPE**

This Specification applies to all dental patient chairs, regardless of their construction and also regardless of whether they are operated manually or electrically or by other means, or as a combination of these.

It specifies requirements, test methods, manufacturer's information, marking and packaging.

**2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES**

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Specification. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this Specification are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid Specifications.

ISO 8191-1:1987, Furniture - Assessment of the ignitability of upholstered furniture - Part 1: Ignition source: smoldering cigarette.

ISO 9687:1993, Dental equipment - Graphical symbols.

IEC 601-1:1988, Medical electrical equipment -Part 1: General requirements for safety.

**3 DEFINITIONS**

For the purposes of this Specification, the definitions given in IEC 601-1 and the following definitions apply.

**3.1 Dental equipment**

Furniture, machines, apparatus and accessories thereto, specially manufactured and/or presented for the use of authorized persons in the practice of dentistry and/or its associated procedures.

**3.2 Dental patient chair:**

**A** Item of dental equipment, provided with a range of movements, which is designed to support and position the patient for treatment. [ISO 1942-4:1989, definition 4.022]

**B** Permanently fixed or free-standing chair, adjustable in height and posture used for supporting a patient in the seated or supine position and having the means for positioning the head of the patient for dental treatment.

**4 CLASSIFICATION**

This classification applies to electrically powered dental patient chairs only.

**4.1 According to type of protection against electric shock**

Dental patient chairs are classified in accordance with IEC 601-1 as follows:

**A Class I equipment**

Equipment in which protection against electric shock does not rely on basic insulation only, but which includes an additional safety precaution in such a way that means are provided for the connection of accessible conductive parts to the protective (earth) conductor in the fixed wiring of the installation in such a way that accessible