



Revised International Organization for Standardization/
American National Standard/
American Dental Association
Specification No. 3950

Designation System for Teeth and Areas of the Oral Cavity

Identical to ISO 3950:2009

ADA American
Dental
Association®

2010

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**REVISED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION/AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD/
AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION SPECIFICATION NO. 3950 FOR DESIGNATION SYSTEM FOR TEETH
AND AREAS OF THE ORAL CAVITY**

The Council on Dental Benefit Programs of the American Dental Association has approved the revised International Organization for Standardization/American National Standard/American Dental Association Specification No. 3950 for Designation System for Teeth and Areas of the Oral Cavity. Working Groups of the ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics (SCDI) formulate this and other specifications and technical reports for the application of information technology and other electronic technologies to dentistry's clinical and administrative operations. The ADA SCDI has representation from appropriate interests in the United States in the standardization of information technology and other electronic technologies used in dental practice. The specification was forwarded to the American National Standards Institute with a recommendation that the specification be approved as an American National Standard. Approval of the revised ISO/ANSI/ADA Specification No. 3950 as an American National Standard was granted by the American National Standards Institute on August 27, 2010.

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FOREWORD

(This Foreword does not form a part of Revised ISO/ANSI/ADA Specification No. 3950 for Designation System for Teeth and Areas of the Oral Cavity).

This specification is an identical adoption of ISO 3950:2009, Designation System for Teeth and Areas of the Oral Cavity. The ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics examined the international standard and found it acceptable for adoption as ISO/ANSI/ADA Specification No. 3950. This specification revises and cancels ISO/ANSI/ADA Specification No. 3950-1997.

In 1992, there was interest in the standardization of clinical information systems related to electronic technology in the dental environment. After evaluating current informatics activities, a Task Group of the Accredited Standards Committee MD156 (ASC MD156) was created by the ADA to initiate the development of technical reports, guidelines, and standards on electronic technologies used in dental practice. In 1999, the ADA established the ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics (SCDI). The ADA SCDI is currently the group that reviews and approves proposed American National standards (ANSI approved) and technical reports developed by the standards committee's working groups. The ADA became an ANSI accredited standards organization in 2000.

The scope of the ADA SCDI is:

"To promote patient care and oral health through the application of information technology to dentistry's clinical and administrative operations; to develop standards, specifications, technical reports, and guidelines for: components of a computerized dental clinical workstation; electronic technologies used in dental practice; and interoperability standards for different software and hardware products which provide a seamless information exchange throughout all facets of healthcare."

REVISED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION/AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD/AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION SPECIFICATION NO. 3950**Designation system for teeth and areas of the oral cavity****1 Scope**

This International Standard provides a system for designating teeth or areas of the oral cavity using two digits.

2 Principles

The anatomical arrangement of normal dental arches with respect to sagittal medial, and occlusal planes allows for logical division of the oral cavity in quadrants and sextants.

A quadrant, in this context, means one of the fourths of the dental arches.

A sextant in this context means one of the sixths of the dental arches.

The areas of the oral cavity and teeth shall be designated by a two-digit code.

Codes containing at least one zero designate areas of the oral cavity.

Replacement of a zero by a nine identifies the presence of an anomaly in that specific area of the oral cavity.

Codes without a zero identify individual teeth. The first digit of the code designates the quadrant and differentiates between deciduous and permanent teeth, and the second identifies the tooth itself.

3 Designation of areas of the oral cavity

00 designates the entire oral cavity

01 designates the maxillary area

02 designates the mandibular area

10 designates the upper right quadrant

20 designates the upper left quadrant

30 designates the lower left quadrant

40 designates the lower right quadrant

03 designates the upper right sextant

04 designates the upper anterior sextant

05 designates the upper left sextant