

How Can I Implement the DAMAS System in My Dental Laboratory?

A laboratory can incorporate DAMAS by following the published guidelines to improve quality assurance.

A laboratory can utilize the services of a DAMAS approved trainer/consultant to train the laboratory and its personnel on how to fully integrate the system into day-to-day operations. Once your laboratory has integrated the processes, the laboratory must go through a third party audit to ensure compliance with the DAMAS specification standards. This gives your laboratory outside verification that the business is doing what it intends to do relative to quality assurance.

For more information on DAMAS, contact the National Association of Dental Laboratories today at 800/950-1150 to order the DAMAS Information Packet and Standard.

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A Quality Assurance Process for Dental Laboratories Developed by Dental Laboratories

DAMAS: A process for all size dental laboratories*

Precision Ceramics, California

Ahwatukee Dental Laboratory, Arizona

Knight Dental Group, Florida

The Aurum Group, Canada

Nogales Dental Laboratory, Mexico

Drake Dental Laboratory, North Carolina

Donnell Dental Laboratory, Illinois




United Dental Laboratories, Ohio

**(sample list of DAMAS Laboratories)*



**Quality Assurance for
Dental Laboratories!
Product Quality
Good Business Practices
Improved Efficiency**



-  FDA Quality System/Good Manufacturing Practices
-  Peace of Mind for Dental Clients
-  Ensuring Quality of Dental Restorations

Why DAMAS?

The dental laboratory is a crucial element of the delivery of quality dental care.

The requirements set forth in DAMAS are based upon the sound quality system management principles specified in ISO, but are geared specifically for the dental laboratory setting. The DAMAS specifications provide a clear-cut process for improving documentation in every facet of laboratory operations including: dental prescriptions/work authorizations; patient contact materials; subcontractor/supplier agreements; material and equipment purchases; employee training; maintenance and calibration of equipment; labeling; customer complaints; and material traceability.

The standards required by DAMAS closely mirror the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Quality System/Good Manufacturing Practice (QS/GMP) specifications, which are required of all dental laboratories conducting business in the United States.

To ensure product quality and foster a professional industry relative to quality assurance, NADL offers this system as a resource to dental laboratories.

Is DAMAS Right for My Dental Laboratory?

Dental laboratories vary in size and manufacturing processes, the DAMAS process addresses overall operations but can also be augmented to encompass special requirements for laboratories that manufacture sleep apnea and snore guard devices.

Although no quality assurance process can guarantee you compliance with the FDA, DAMAS was developed for dental laboratories by dental laboratory owners for the specific operations that labs face day to day. DAMAS, although not free, is significantly less expensive to implement than other more general quality assurance programs.

Fact and Fiction on DAMAS

DAMAS does not require monumental loads of paper; hours of management time; interference from outside bodies; and the process does not tell you how to run your business.

However, it can be of great assistance to your dental laboratory by:

- Improving efficiency and productivity
- Integrating good management disciplines
- Improving customer service needs and customer confidence
- Providing a competitive edge
- Reducing waste of materials and manpower
- Reducing risk and liability
- Improves ability to increase profitability
- Provides a formal process to help meet FDA QS/GMP requirements



FDA Quality System/Good Manufacturing Practices • Peace of Mind for Dental Clients • Ensuring Quality of Dental Restorations

