


Idaho Department of Correction 	Standard Operating Procedure	Title: Oral Care		Page: 1 of 5
		Control Number: 401.06.03.036	Version: 5.0	Adopted: 06/01/1995

Pat Donaldson, chief of management services, approved this document on 10/04/2017.

Open to the public: Yes

SCOPE

This standard operating procedure (SOP) applies to all Idaho Department of Correction (IDOC) employees, inmates, healthcare contractors and subcontractors.

Revision Summary
Revision date (09/11/2017) version 4.0: Reformatted and updated entire document. Updated terminology and definitions for audit compliance. Revision date (10/04/2017) version 5.0: Minor changes to add a designee to some areas of responsibility.

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BOARD OF CORRECTION IDAPA RULE NUMBER 06.01.01.401

Medical Care

POLICY CONTROL NUMBER 401

Clinical Services and Treatment

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this standard operating procedure (SOP) is to establish procedures to ensure that inmates' dental needs are met in a timely and appropriate manner under the direction and supervision of a dentist.

RESPONSIBILITY

Health Services Director

- The health services director, or designee, is responsible to monitor the implementation and continued practice of the provisions contained in this SOP.
- When services are privatized, the contract medical provider is responsible to implement and practice all provisions of this SOP unless specifically exempted by written contractual agreements.
- Nothing in this SOP shall be construed to relive the contract medical provider(s) of any obligation and/or responsibility stipulated in their respective contractual agreements.

Contract Medical Provider

When services are privatized, the contract medical provider(s) ensures that all aspects of this SOP and the appropriate National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCCHC) standards are addressed by institution-specific policy and defined procedures, and that all forms and procedures are submitted to the department health authority for review and approval prior to implementation.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Oral Care

Oral care under the direction and supervision of a dentist licensed in the state is provided to each inmate. Care is timely and includes immediate access for urgent or painful conditions. There is a system of established priorities for care when, in the dentist's judgement, the inmate's health would be adversely affected.

1. Dental treatment is categorized as emergent or non-emergent services.

Emergency Dental Treatment

Emergency dental treatment is available to all inmates and includes, but is not limited to, treatment for the following:

- Pain
- Infection
- Jaw or facial swelling
- Bleeding
- Injuries
- Tooth fracture at gum line

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Emergency dental nursing protocols are available to assess dental emergencies at times when the dental staff is not available. Appropriate notification to a dental or medical provider is required for dental emergencies that require immediate treatment. If immediate treatment is not required, the inmate is referred to the next available dental clinic.

Non-emergency dental treatment

Access to non-emergent dental treatment will be accomplished through the submission of a health services request and following the established sick call process. Non-emergent dental treatment includes, but is not limited to, treatment for the following:

Restoration (Fillings)

- Tooth-colored and silver (amalgam)
- Medicated, temporary

Extraction

- Complicated cases may be referred offsite as determined by the attending dentist.

Periodontal Treatment (Gum Disease)

- Periodontal treatment will be provided on both an emergent and non-emergent basis as determined by the attending dentist.

Endodontic Treatment (Root Canal)

- Root canal services may be provided at the discretion of the attending dentist based on clinical evaluation and overall oral health.
- Pulpotomies (pulp cap) may be provided at the discretion of the attending dentist based on clinical evaluation and overall oral health.

Prostodontics (Dentures and Partial Dentures)

- Does not include bridges or implants.
- Providing dentures or partial dentures is at the discretion of the attending dentist.
- Eligibility for replacement of dentures or partial dentures is every five years.
- Inmates within six months of release may not be eligible for dentures or partial dentures due to the time required to complete the denture process.
- Orthodontic services are not provided.
- If an inmate has existing orthodontic hardware upon arrival, his treating orthodontist will be contacted by the attending dentist to determine the proper course of action. If the inmate has a long sentence, the usual result is removal of the orthodontic hardware. If removal of the orthodontic hardware is required, the attending dentist will make arrangements for removal.

Minor Temporo-Mandibular Joint Treatment

- Night guards may be provided at the discretion of the attending dentist.

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2. Dental Services at Intake

Oral Screening at Intake

An oral screening will be performed by a licensed dentist within seven days of admission to an IDOC facility. The oral screening includes visual examination of the teeth and gums, noting any obvious abnormalities or inmate complaints.

Oral Examination at Intake

A licensed dentist will complete a comprehensive oral examination within thirty days of admission. The oral examination will be performed on all the hard and soft tissues and will include the inmate's dental history, charting of the teeth, health history, home care instructions and access to care instructions.

3. Dental Treatment Plans

Each inmate will have his dental conditions explained. The conditions will be prioritized by the attending dentist. Radiographs are appropriately used in the development of the treatment plan. Each inmate should be educated in the extent of dental treatment he may expect to receive during incarceration.

4. Outside Dental Consultations/Treatment

Consultation with this SOP and all related department-approved forms and/or protocols will be monitored via routine reports, program reviews, audits and record reviews conducted by the department health authority or designee.

COMPLIANCE

Compliance with this SOP and all related department-approved forms and/or protocols will be monitored via routine reports, program reviews, audits and record reviews conducted by the department health authority or designee.

DEFINITIONS

Dental: Relating to the teeth and dentistry

Dental Treatment: Includes the full range of services that in the supervising dentist's judgment are necessary for proper mastication and maintaining the inmate's health status.

Health Services Director: The Idaho Department of Correction (IDOC) employee, or designee, who is primarily responsible for oversight of auditing and monitoring services provided by the contract medical vendor.

Oral Care: Includes instruction in oral hygiene, examination, and treatment of dental problems. Instruction in oral hygiene minimally includes information on plaque control and the proper brushing of teeth.

Oral Screening: Includes visual observation of the teeth and gums, and notation of any obvious or gross abnormalities requiring immediate referral to a dentist.

Oral Examination by a Dentist: Includes taking or reviewing the inmate's oral history, an extraoral head and neck examination, charting of teeth, and examination of the hard and soft tissue of the oral cavity with a mouth mirror, explorer, and adequate illumination.

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REFERENCES

NCCHC Standard P-E-06

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