

**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
PROBATION DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE**

DENTAL SERVICES: ROUTINE AND EMERGENCY

Title 15, Section 1435; NCCHC

Authority:

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Purpose:

To ensure youth in Juvenile Detention and Assessment Centers (JDACs) and Treatment Facilities (TFs) receive timely dental care that includes immediate access for urgent or painful conditions under the direction of a dentist licensed in the State of California.

Definitions:

Oral Examination: An exam provided by a dentist which includes taking or reviewing the patient's oral history, an extra-oral 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.

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

Oral Treatment: The full range of services that are necessary for proper chewing and maintaining the youth's health status as determined by the supervising dentist.

Responsibilities:

I. Health Service Manager (HSM):

- A. Oversee all contracts and agreements for dental services.
- B. Approve or deny referrals to contracted off-site dental providers or endodontists.

II. Supervising Correctional Nurse I/II:

- A. Submit referrals for contracted off-site dental providers or endodontist to the HSM to obtain authorization for treatment.

III. Correctional Nurse I/II:

- A. Perform an oral screening during the intake process and provide instruction in oral hygiene and preventative oral education.
- B. Upon intake, schedule an appointment with the on-site dentist for the following:
 - 1. Youth that have not seen the on-site dental provider within one (1) year.
 - 2. Pregnant youth.
 - 3. Youth with an identified oral care need.
- C. Schedule youth that remain in custody for longer than six (6) consecutive months and pregnant youth after their first trimester with the on-site dentist for prophylactic cleaning.
- D. Process all dental orders as received.
- E. Obtain approval from the Supervising Correctional Nurse I/II prior to scheduling an appointment for a youth with a contracted off-site dental provider or endodontist.
- F. Respond to dental emergency calls as follows:
 - 1. Follow the Standardized Procedure for Registered Nurses Dental Caries/Pain/Avulsions to address immediate dental needs.

2. Complete a Dental Referral Form and/or Urgent Medical Referral Form in the event follow up care is required.

IV. On-Site Dental Provider:

- A. Provide oral examinations to youth.
- B. Ensure radiographs are used appropriately in the development of the treatment plan.
- C. Determine the individual need of fluoride for each youth.
- D. Follow contemporary infection control procedures.
- E. Provide training to nursing staff on the performance of dental screenings.
- F. Document all dental care provided in the health record.
- G. Perform extractions in a manner consistent with community standards of care and adhere to the American Dental Association's clinical guidelines.
- H. Refer youth to off-site dental providers, endodontist, and/or oral surgery as deemed necessary for consultation and/or treatment that are not provided on-site.

V. Probation Corrections Officer (PCO), Probation Corrections Supervisor I/II (PCSI/II):

- A. Address dental emergencies and render first aid as needed when it is safe to do so.
- B. Advise the Watch Commander of the incident.
- C. Contact medical staff to respond to the incident.

Guidelines:

- A. Oral treatment, not limited to extractions, is provided as determined by the dentist and according to the treatment plan based on a system of established priorities for care when the youth's health would otherwise be adversely affected.
- B. Youth shall be scheduled for an oral examination with the on-site dental provider within 60 days of admission and annually thereafter, unless the youth has been seen by an onsite dentist within one (1) year.
- C. All youth that remain in custody for longer than six (6) consecutive months and pregnant youth after the first trimester shall be scheduled for prophylactic cleaning with the on-site dentist.
- D. Parent/legal guardians of the youth may, at their own expense, authorize and arrange for dental treatment as permitted under law.
 1. Collaboration with the HSM and the Superintendent is required prior to approval.
 2. Safety and security concerns as well as public safety may prevent such an arrangement. The parents may not have knowledge of the exact appointment date and time if it is deemed a safety risk. If a safety risk is determined, the appointment shall be rescheduled.
 3. The Juvenile Court is the only entity that may grant a furlough for the receipt of medical/dental attention. Medical/Dental emergencies are the only exception, as outlined in the existing Furloughs procedure.
 4. All paperwork from the outside provider of care shall accompany the youth upon their return for continuity of medical care while detained.
- E. Orthodontic needs shall continue via the youth's private dental provider whenever possible.
 1. Nursing staff shall document in the health record the communication of the parent/guardian's approval of requested/planned orthodontia interventions, including requests for removal of orthodontia while in custody.

Inspections:

Refer to the Policy and Procedure Inspection Matrix.

Foundation:

Minimum Standards for Juvenile Facilities-Title 15, Section 1435
Standards for Health Services in Juvenile Detention and Confinement Facilities
National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC)


References:

Procedures:

Furloughs

Treatment and Requests for Health Care Services (Non-Emergency)

Issued by:

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Michelle Scray Brown, Chief Probation Officer Date

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