

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Operations Division
Health Services Section Policy and Procedure #P-E-06.1

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY DENTAL TREATMENT

POLICY: Emergency dental treatment will be provided for all inmates. The treatment will include all Level I procedures and some Level II procedures.

REFERENCE: OAR 291-124-005 through 291-124-0095
NCCHC Standard P-E-06, Oral Care
Health Service Procedure #P-A-02.2, Level of Therapeutic Dental Care Provided by ODOC, Health Services Section

PROCEDURE:

A. Access:
Emergency dental treatment may be accessed by medical sick call, interview request, medical/dental referral, and referrals from non-health care staff.

B. Treatment:
Treatment will be determined and prioritized by use of nursing assessment protocols and/or referral to dental staff during regular dental hours.

1. Level I procedures will be treated by nursing assessment protocols with referral to dental staff as soon as possible. If signs and symptoms indicate possible life threatening illness, it may be appropriate to contact the physician on call or even refer patient to local hospital.
2. Level II procedures will be treated in various methods as determined by the attending health service staff and may include but not be limited to the following:
 - a. Treatment by nursing assessment protocols for comfort care and infection.
 - b. Sedative fillings (palliative temporary treatment).
 - c. Permanent fillings and temporary crowns.
 - d. Treatment of acute periodontal symptoms.
 - e. Adjustments of prosthetic appliances causing pain and soreness.
 - f. Extractions.
 - g. Pericoronitis treatment (palliative).
 - h. Pulpotomy/pulpectomy.

Emergency Dental Treatment

- i. Antibiotic and pain medication therapy.
- j. Referral to outside practitioners or hospital emergency room.
- k. Any comfort care treatment not covered by the above procedures.

TIME FRAMES:

Dental emergencies will be treated by nursing assessment protocols and/or referred to the health service or dental clinic at the earliest possible time.

Effective Date: _____
Revision date: April 2007
Supersedes P&P dated: March 2006