

- I. **PURPOSE:** To provide access and establish guidelines for patient access to oral and dental care.
- II. **POLICY:** Routine and emergency oral care are provided to patients under the direction and supervision of a dentist licensed by the State of Missouri, with the focus primarily on urgent and emergency care.
- III. **RESPONSIBILITY:** All staff members working in the Corrections Medicine program are responsible for the content of this policy and procedure and adherence to the policy.
- IV. **PROCEDURE:**
 1. Oral screening is performed by qualified health care professionals during the intake screening and again during the initial assessment done by a registered nurse.
 2. An oral examination is performed on all incarcerated individuals within 12 months of admission to the Buzz Westfall Justice Center.
 3. Patients requesting dental care will complete a dental sick call form. Dental referrals are given to the dental assistant for scheduling.
 4. Patients with urgent or emergent dental needs are assessed and triaged by the Corrections Medicine medical staff and the appropriate dental care initiated to include dental standing orders, consultation with a provider or on-call provider, and if necessary, transportation to the emergency department.
 5. Consultation via referral to dental specialists, including oral surgeons, is made for patients whose dental care needs are beyond the capacity and capability of the Corrections Dental program, or when in the dentist's judgment, the patient's health would otherwise be adversely affected.
 6. Dental treatment for patients in the Buzz Westfall Justice Center shall consist of:
 - a. Oral exam and teeth cleaning
 - b. Pain relief for dental problems
 - c. Fillings
 - d. Extractions of non-restorable teeth
 7. Dental care and treatment plans are performed in a manner consistent with the American Dental Association's clinical guidelines.

8. Dental treatment is based on established priorities for care, and when in the dentist's judgment, the patient's health would otherwise be adversely affected. Dental care for solely cosmetic purposes will not be performed.

9. Documentation of care is recorded in the patient's electronic medical record and the dental record.

V. REFERENCE:

ADA Center for Evidence-Based Dentistry - Clinical Practice Guidelines. American Dental Association. <https://ebd.ada.org/en/evidence/guidelines>. Updated 2019. Accessed July 16, 2019.