

## HEALTH SERVICES POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL

North Carolina Department Of Correction  
Division Of Prisons

SECTION: Care and Treatment of Patient -  
Dental Services

POLICY # TX V-1

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SUBJECT: Dental Responsibilities

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 2012  
SUPERCEDES DATE: June 2006

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### References

**Related ACA Standards**

**4<sup>th</sup> Edition Standards for Adult Correctional  
Institutions 4- 4360**

### PURPOSE

To describe the scope of dental services

### POLICY

Dental Services is comprised of a group of Health professionals within the Division of Prisons who are professionally trained in the delivery of dental care.

1. The Correctional Dental Director has the responsibility to develop and implement a program by which dental care is delivered.
2. The Correctional Dental Director has state-wide responsibility for the supervision of the dental program under the Director of Health Services.
3. The Dental Program at a particular facility is to be under the supervision of a duly licensed dentist, who will report to the Correctional Dental Director clinically and administratively to the Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent /Health Treatment Administrator.
4. The responsibilities of the facility dentist will include the following:
  - a. To provide access to treatment and dental care that meets community standards.
  - b. Procurement/maintenance of supplies and equipment necessary to maintain the operation of the dental program.
  - c. Supervision of auxiliary dental personnel.
  - d. Responsibility for implementing procedures as stated in the Health Services Manual.
  - e. To ensure that operation of the clinic meets regulatory requirements dictated by the Dental Statutes of North Carolina.
  - f. To work with the Administrative Supervisor to ensure that the delivery of dental care is provided within the custody requirements of that facility.
5. The Correctional Dental Director may delegate clinical supervisory responsibilities to dental staff outside of their facility of assignment. Such activities may include providing treatment at other dental clinics, dental education of referring health professionals, use of dental auxiliary staff in patient screening, and assisting in resolution of problems which may exist between local dentists and facility staff.

*Paula Y. Smith, M.D.*

3/31/12

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Paula Y. Smith, MD, Director of Health Services

Date

SOR: Dental Committee