## HEALTH SERVICES POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL

North Carolina Department Of Correction Division Of Prisons SECTION: Care and Treatment of Patient -

**Dental Services** 

POLICY # TX V-2

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SUBJECT: Asepsis Dental Procedures

EFFECTIVE DATE: SUPERCEDES DATE:

March 2012 February 2009

References

Related ACA Standards

4<sup>th</sup> Edition Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions 4-4360, 4-4365

## **PURPOSE**

To prevent cross infections.

## **POLICY**

Infection Control regulations for the dental office and the dental laboratory have been adopted as law by the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners, and as such, must be followed by every practitioner. The need for aseptic procedures has been recognized by the American Dental Association and by public health service investigators. Patients who appear healthy can carry undetected infections into the dental operatory. Although obvious primary concern is for the patient's safety, available data also suggests dental personnel are the most vulnerable to cross-infections. The importance of practical methods to protect the large number of patients that receive dental treatments, as well as all clinical personnel, is readily apparent. Universal precautions are to be followed with all patients.

All dental clinics shall maintain an updated, customized Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan and have a staff member designated as the coordinator responsible for compliance with the North Carolina Statewide Program for Infection Control and Epidemiology (SPICE). Each clinic should organize these programs in manual format, provide necessary updates as required by the regulatory authority, and ensure staff have access to the information.

3/31/12

Paula Y. Smith, MD, Director of Health Services

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Date

SOR: Dental Committee