



DHEC PUBLIC HEALTH DENTAL
PREVENTION PROGRAM
Guidelines

COVID-19 Pandemic Addendum

September 1, 2020
Division of Oral Health

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Section 3: DHEC Public Health Dental Prevention Program Implementation

Due to the COVID-19 Global Pandemic, the Department of Health and Environmental Control's Division of Oral Health has recommended the following temporary inclusions to the Public Health Dental Prevention Program. These inclusions will not replace the current PHDPP Guidelines and are an addendum to the existing document. The Public Health Dental Prevention Program will continue to comply with the Dental Practice Act 2003 and DHEC will continue to develop, implement and evaluate performance for the operation of the DHEC PHDPP in public schools. These measures include: increasing access to preventive dental services for children in South Carolina public schools and providing dental assessment, preventive interventions and need-based dental referrals.

Policy and Procedures

Each Mobile Delivery Dental (MDD) Provider will maintain the following policies and procedures in addition to the current requirements of the PHDPP Guidelines:

- a. MDD providers will include infection control procedures, including exposure control (federal requirement) utilizing the CDC Latest Guidance for Dental Settings During COVID-19 – Access at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/dental-settings.html>.
- b. Hazardous communications (federal requirement);
- c. HIPAA Privacy Notice;
- d. Patient Registration and Parent/Patient Consent Form (DHEC recommends MDD Providers include COVID-19 information, guidance and precautions taken, in their parent/patient consent forms);
- e. Referral protocol and procedures;
- f. COVID-19 Positive Case Protocol and Procedures (DHEC recommends MDD Providers include a COVID-19 Positive Case Protocol for Staff and for Students in the event a positive case should occur);
- g. Follow up protocol and procedures;
- h. Supervision protocol;
- i. Data management protocol;
- j. Quality assurance plan (sealant application and sealant retention checks protocols – short and long term);
- k. Compliance with the SC Dental Practice Act.

Refer to the Safety Net Dental Clinic Manual, Chapter 4 Clinic Operations for information and examples. Access at: <http://www.dentalclinicmanual.com/chapt4/index.html>

A copy of all written, including, but not limited to the above, MDD Provider's policies and procedures shall be submitted annually to DHEC by **July 1st** of each fiscal year. To ensure the health, safety and privacy of school aged children served by MDD Providers in the public schools, DHEC will review all the MDD Provider's policies and procedures and will notify regulatory agencies if such policies and procedures are not in compliance with the requirements of state and federal laws set forth by the regulatory agencies.

Parent/Patient Forms

A packet (hard copy or electronic media) of all forms (consent form, HIPAA notice, etc.) utilized

by the MDD Provider will be submitted to DHEC with the signed Memorandum of Agreement. MDD Providers should provide COVID-19 information, guidance and precautions taken, in their parent/patient consent forms.

Infection Control

MDD Providers must adhere to OSHA and NIOSH standards as well as to CDC guidelines on infection control and hand washing. MDD Providers must follow CDC Latest Guidance for Dental Settings During COVID-19.

Resources to utilize in the development of policies and procedures for infection control are:

- a. CDC Infection Control Recommendations for Dentistry– Access at: <http://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/InfectionControl/guidelines/index.htm>
- b. CDC Hand Hygiene Information – Access at: <https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/faqs/hand-hygiene.html>
- c. Summary of Infection Prevention Practices in Dental Settings: Basic Expectations for Safe Care – Access at: <https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/safe-care-modules.htm>
- d. ADA Key Points on Infection Control in Dentistry- Access at: <http://www.ada.org/en/member-center/oral-health-topics/infection-control-resources>
- e. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations and interpretations – Access at: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/dentistry/index.html>
- f. Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention (OSAP): Delivering Safest Dental Visit-Checklists – Access at: <http://www.osap.org/page/ChecklistsNonMbr>

Additional Resources to utilize in the development of policies and procedures for infection control during the COVID-19 Pandemic are:

- a. CDC Latest Guidance for Dental Settings During Covid-19 –Access at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/dental-settings.html>
- b. Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention (OSAP): Best practices for infection control in dental clinics during the COVID-19 Pandemic – Access at: https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.osap.org/resource/resmgr/dentaquest/INC1353_Best_Practices_for_.pdf

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 School Resources:

- a. CDC Considerations for Schools – Access at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>
- b. CDC Considerations for K-12 Schools: Readiness and Planning Tool – Access at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community/School-Admin-K12-readiness-and-planning-tool.pdf>
- c. CDC – Screening K-12 Students for Symptoms of COVID-19: Limitations and Considerations Access at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/symptom-screening.html>