POLICY STATEMENT:

The Department shall ensure that standardized dental services are provided to offenders in correctional facilities as set forth in this policy.

RELATED POLICIES:

03.04.100 Health Services
03.04.101 Prisoner Health Care Copayment

POLICY:

DEFINITIONS

A. Emergency Dental Services - Dental services for those conditions for which delay in treatment may result in death or permanent impairment.

B. Qualified Health Professional (QHP) - A health care professional licensed and registered/certified by the State of Michigan to practice within the scope of his/her training.

C. Routine Dental Services - Limited diagnostic, restorative, periodontal, prosthetic, and non-urgent oral surgical procedures as determined by the Dentist, dental examinations, dental/oral health education, any condition which requires non-urgent OR non-emergency health care contact with an offender.

D. Urgent Dental Services - Dental services determined by a Dentist or QHP to be medically necessary, but are for conditions unlikely to cause death or irreparable harm if not treated immediately. Generally, this applies to offenders with facial swelling, oral facial trauma, uncontrolled postoperative bleeding, or significant pain or discomfort.

GENERAL INFORMATION

E. In accordance with PD 03.04.100 "Health Services," access to dental services for offenders in correctional facilities shall be determined by the Bureau of Health Care Services (BHCS) Administrator in consultation with the CFA or FOA Deputy Director, as appropriate.

F. Offenders shall be charged a fee for dental services requested by the offender as set forth in PD 03.04.101 "Prisoner Health Care Copayment."

G. Dental services provided at each correctional facility shall be coordinated by a licensed Dentist under the direction of the Dental Director. Dental clinical decisions are the authority of the responsible Dentist. Only the Dental Director may change a dental clinical decision which has been made by a Dentist.

H. There shall be a Dental Advisory Board (DAB) comprised of the BHCS Dental Director and other staff designated by the BHCS Administrator. The DAB is responsible for determining the types of dental services to be provided by the Department and under what conditions those services are to be provided, subject to the approval of the BHCS Administrator.

I. The Prisoner Request for Health Care Services (CHJ-549) shall be used by offenders to request all dental care. The CHJ-549 shall be collected daily by Health Care staff and forwarded to the dental clinic.
DENTAL SCREENING AND EXAMINATIONS

J. A dental intake screening examination shall be performed at reception facilities by a fully licensed Dentist. All findings shall be fully documented in the prisoner health record or, if not available, on authorized dental health forms. The dental examination shall include:

1. Reviewing the offender’s dental health history and documenting current level of care needed (i.e., urgent, emergency or routine).
2. Taking appropriate radiographs for diagnostic review.
3. Inspecting for obvious tooth decay, missing teeth, prostheses, teeth in obvious need of extraction, dental abnormalities, and signs of dental disease.
4. Providing information regarding the availability of dental services and instructions on proper oral hygiene.

OTHER DENTAL SERVICES

K. A dental stabilization center has been established at Duane L. Waters Health Center. The dental stabilization center shall handle urgent and emergency dental services for offenders received at the Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center (RGC).

L. Urgent and emergency dental services shall be available to offenders in all correctional facilities.

M. Routine dental services shall be available at all correctional facilities except reception facilities. However, routine dental services shall not be provided to offenders in the Special Alternative Incarceration Program and may be denied to any offender who may be released from incarceration (e.g., parole or discharge) within one year. Offenders are eligible for routine dental services after 24 months from the first day of intake. The Department will provide only the following routine dental services to offenders in correctional facilities:

1. Minor oral surgery, including extraction of teeth beyond repair. Surgical cases beyond the scope of Department Dentists shall be referred to the appropriate specialists.
2. Restorative services, which includes amalgam and composite materials.
3. Teeth cleaning provided by a Dentist or Dental Hygienist, when determined necessary by the examining Dentist.
4. Prosthetic services as determined by the Dentist. The DAB shall establish criteria for the provision of these services.

N. Notwithstanding Paragraph L and M, the following dental services shall not be provided by the Department:

1. Any orthodontic service.
2. Periodontal surgery.
3. Crown and bridge services (i.e., cast crowns, fixed partials, gold restorations, or other laboratory fabricated fixed restorations).
4. Tooth or implant attachments for denture retention.
5. Teeth bleaching or whitening procedures.
6. Dental sealant procedures.
7. Dental cosmetic procedures.
8. Dental implants, implant restorations or implant maintenance.
9. Edentulous alveolar ridge augmentation or orthognathic surgery.
10. Temporomandibular joint dysfunction (TMJ or TMD) or bruxism treatment or appliances.
11. Endodontic services including apical surgery.
12. Topical fluoride or topical desensitizing treatments.
13. Dispensing dental hygiene or denture products.

O. The scheduling of offenders for dental services will normally be determined by the attending Dentist in coordination with the institution’s medical and custody staff.

P. Institutional security requirements shall be considered in offender scheduling. Offenders requiring urgent dental services shall be seen as soon as practicable, including during non-business hours if there is a serious medical need. Offenders on the lists for routine dental services shall be seen in the order of placement on the lists. Treatment priority shall be based on the clinical and professional judgment of the Dentist.

OPERATING PROCEDURES

Q. The BHCS Administrator shall ensure that procedures are developed as necessary to implement requirements set forth in this policy directive within 60 calendar days after the effective date.

AUDIT ELEMENTS

R. A Primary Audit Elements List has been developed and is available on the Department’s Document Access System to assist with self-audit of this policy, pursuant to PD 01.05.100 “Self-Audits and Performance Audits.”

APPROVED: HEW 05/01/2018