

Job Title:	REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENIST		
Reports to:	Dentist and Dental Supervisor		
Supervisory Responsibilities:	NO	FLSA Status:	Hourly

POSITION SUMMARY:

Responsible for the direct provision of oral hygiene and appropriate preventive services to dental patients of the agency. A Registered Dental Hygienist will also be responsible for providing appropriate oral health information to individuals and groups.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

An example in this class may be called upon to do any or all of the following (these examples do not include all of the tasks which the employee may be expected to perform):

Assists in the oral health management of all clinic patients.

Obtains baseline oral hygiene assessment data based upon accepted principles of oral hygiene and periodontal care.

Records patient-hygienist transactions as they occur in the patient's dental record so that the dental record accurately and completely reflects the nature of the contact, the condition of the patient and the care or treatment provided.

Develop preliminary treatment plans for clients prior to Dr's exam. Review treatment plans with client and explain options available.

Provides oral health education and appropriate individual counseling for all center dental patients.

Provides clinical oral hygiene services including dental x-rays, prophylaxis, scaling, sealant and/or fluoride application consistent with accepted professional practices and standards and in compliance with applicable state laws and agency protocols.

Integration of appropriate patient dental hygiene care with other health care professionals involved in the patient's health care management.

Organizes and performs preventive oral health presentations at on-site and off-site locations.

Performs independent procedures as delegated and directed by a dentist in accordance with state/federal regulations and law as well the agency's protocols and directive.

Assists in the maintenance of all Dental Clinical areas in compliance with Dental Department directives and policies as well as the agency's policies and procedures relative to infection control, exposure control and safety issues.

Receives and places necessary telephone calls consistent with professional matters, clinic business and patient care.

Assists with various clinical and administrative functions of the center as appropriate and time permits.

Responsible for inventory control and ordering hygiene materials following established purchasing procedures.

Insures the proper disposal of all contaminated or potentially contaminated materials in accordance with the Dental Department directives and agency policy as well as state and federal rules and regulations.

Complies in full with the agency's Exposure Control Plan.

Travels when necessary to meet operational needs.

Support other teams members to accomplish daily activities.

Responsible for personal compliance with all applicable federal, state, local and agency rules, regulations, protocols and procedures governing the practice of dental hygiene and the clinical provision of dental hygiene services as well as those relating to, but not limited to, personnel issues, work place safety, public health and confidentiality.

Knowledgeable of Dentrix or other dental software.

Knowledgeable of hygiene principles and practices of modern oral hygiene and periodontal patient care.

Skill in oral and written communication to work effectively with clinic staff and the public.

As directed by a supervisor, performs other related and/or necessary tasks to achieve organizational and programmatic goals and objectives as required.

NON ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Skill in working with and eliciting the cooperation of clients of all ages.

Must be cognizant of the public health, social and economic factors which impact the overall health, and more specifically the oral health of their patients.

Must be able to work with other health care professionals from a variety of disciplines to achieve maximal program effectiveness and patient benefit.

Able to solve problems through individual and/or programmatic action.

May be required to work irregular hours.

During a public health emergency may be required to perform other duties as assigned.

Participate in agency drills.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS:

Completion of an Associates or Bachelor's degree in dental hygiene.

License to practice in the State of Michigan.

Certified in administering local anesthesia.

Prefer certification in administering nitrate oxide.

CPR Certified

A valid drivers license

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is required to stand; sit (for prolonged periods of time); and walk; use hands or fingers, handle or feel objects, tools or controls; reach with hands and arms; climb stairs; balance; twist, stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl; talk or hear; and taste or smell. The employee must occasionally lift or move up to 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by the job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus. Physical movements may be performed with a degree of mobility, manual dexterity and hand-eye coordination normally associated with the practice of modern oral hygiene on a repetitive basis.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

Dental Hygienists work in a fast paced, well-lighted, clean environment. Thermostats are kept at an optimal temperature for the comfort of everyone.

May encounter stressful situations.

Frequent exposure to communicable diseases, body fluids, toxic substances, medicinal preparations, radiation and other conditions common to a clinical environment may routinely be encountered.

SPECIAL CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT:

An employee in this class must provide his/her own transportation; drive on all rural roads and in any weather condition.