



MONTANA STATE PRISON OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE

Procedure:	MSP HS E-06.2 EMERGENCY DENTAL TREATMENT	
Effective Date:	11/01/2010	Page 1 of 2
Revision Date(s):	01/05/2024; 06/30/2026	
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I. PURPOSE

Provide emergency dental treatment for all inmates with severe dental related pain, acute dental infection, and oral-facial trauma.

II. DEFINITIONS (see Glossary)

III. REQUIREMENTS

A. Access

1. Inmates may access emergency dental treatment through:
 - a. HCR Sick Call
 - 1) The inmate can request emergency dental treatment through the HCR Sick Call system or medical provider visits.
 - b. Request for Medical Services – Dental (Kite)
 - 1) The inmate can request dental treatment for severe pain, acute infection, or oral-facial trauma by utilizing the *Request for Medical Services – Dental Form* available electronically on Edovo tablets.
 - c. Intake Dental Screening Appointment
 - 1) These appointments are designed to ensure any dental conditions requiring emergent dental care are determined.
 - d. Oral Examination Appointments
 - 1) Emergent dental care may be provided at this appointment, if deemed necessary.
 - e. Referral from MSP Medical Staff
 - 1) Inmates can request emergency dental evaluation and treatment through any MSP medical staff.
 - f. Referral from Non-Health Care Staff
 - 1) Inmates can request emergency dental evaluation and treatment through any MSP staff.
 - a) In addition, any MSP staff can request emergency dental evaluation and treatment on behalf of an inmate.

B. Treatment

1. Dental emergency evaluation and treatment shall be determined and prioritized through the nursing dental protocols and/or emergency dental protocols during regular dental clinic hours.
2. Nursing Dental Protocols (After Hours)
 - a. Primary focus of treatment is alleviation of pain, control of acute infection, and oral-facial trauma.

- b. MSP nursing dental protocols are to be utilized by MSP medical staff after regular dental clinic hours.
- c. Documentation of any treatment provided for the dental emergency should be captured in the inmate's Electronic Health Record (EHR).
- d. Depending on the severity of the condition, the request for emergency dental treatment can be forwarded immediately to dental staff or, after normal Dental Clinic hours, to the on-call Dentist.
- e. Inmates with life-threatening dental emergencies or combinations of medical and dental issues may be directed to medical staff.

C. Special Consideration Inmates

- 1. Stash Inmates
 - a. Only Urgent / Emergent dental care is provided, as they are only at MDIU for a short time and require complete separation from all other inmates. Coordination is required with the MDIU Unit Administrator and the MDIU Medical Staff.

D. Urgent / Emergent Dental Protocols

- 1. An urgent / emergent request received by dental staff will be expedited and the inmate will be scheduled for evaluation and treatment at the earliest available clinic appointment time.
- 2. Treatment may include, but is not limited to:
 - a. no treatment, if not deemed appropriate
 - b. medications for relief of pain or acute infection
 - c. sedative or permanent restoration
 - d. extractions or other oral surgical treatment
 - e. adjustment of tooth structure or restorations or prosthetic appliances
 - f. treatment for acute periodontal conditions
 - g. pulpotomy or pulpectomy (first step endodontic treatment)
 - h. referral to outside practitioners, the Infirmary, or the hospital emergency center.

E. Treatment Follow-Up

- 1. When appropriate, the inmate should receive an appointment for follow-up dental treatment or post-op evaluation.
- 2. Inmates referred to the Infirmary shall be monitored by MSP dental staff.
- 3. Documentation, including appropriate admission and release documentation, should be made in the inmate's Electronic Health Record (EHR).
 - a. The Admission Discharge queue, *Infirmary Admittances and Maxillofacial Trauma Care*, provides further direction.
 - b. Follow-up care should be coordinated through the MSP Dental Clinic Manager.
- 4. All inmates referred to outside practitioners or hospital emergency centers for emergent dental care should be set up for a post-op evaluation appointment.

IV. CLOSING

Questions about this procedure should be directed to the Medical Health Services Manager.

V. REFERENCES

- A. *NCCHC Standard P-E-06, 2008*
- B. *NCCHC Standards Appendix G*
- C. *DOC 4.5.19 Nursing Assessment Protocols*

VI. FORM

Infirmary Admittances and Maxillofacial Trauma Care