

City of St. Louis Department of Public Safety / Division of Corrections
POLICY & PROCEDURES

CHAPTER:	4	Facility Operations	4. 2. 8
SECTION:	2	Health Services	EFFECTIVE DATE: 4 / 8 / 2020
SUBJECT:	8	Dental Screening and Evaluation	
STANDARDS: ACA – 4 – ALDF: 4C-20			
APPROVED:			REVIEW DATE: 4 / 8 / 20
Dale Glass COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONS			REVISION DATE: 6/24 / 20
Rescind: 4.2.8 dated 1/28/13 Cancel:			

I. POLICY

It is the policy of the Division of Corrections to provide all inmates with access to necessary dental care.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES

The facility Executive staff, healthcare providers, and staff having daily contact with the inmate population are responsible for ensuring that the provisions of this policy are adhered to.

III. DEFINITIONS

None

IV. PROCEDURES

A. General Information

All dental service providers will carry out their duties in a professional manner and within the guidelines of the Missouri Dental Law in compliance with all applicable administrative regulations and operational memorandums, to include employee safety, infection control, and hazardous materials.

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B. Initial Examination

1. The initial dental screening examination, consisting of a routine dental examination and appropriate x-rays will be conducted within 14 days of the inmate's admission into a Division of Corrections facility.
2. During intake only emergency dental needs causing severe pain or acute infection may be scheduled for dental treatment.
2. Upon admission, the medical staff will schedule the inmate for an initial assessment or emergency treatment as needed. At this time the dentist will formulate a treatment plan and discuss treatment needs as indicated.
3. Comprehensive dental examinations will occur within 12 months of admission and supported by x-rays, if necessary.

C. Dental Record

1. The results of all examinations, diagnostic procedures, and treatment plans will be recorded in the dental health section of the health record.
2. The dental examination will be used to develop a treatment plan, which will be recorded in the dental record, and to prioritize treatment based on category and urgency.

D. Dental Services Provided

1. Oral examination and indicated diagnostic x-rays.
2. Restorations, treatment of dental pain, sedative fillings, extractions of non-restorable teeth, etc.
3. Dental prostheses are provided when the health of the inmate would otherwise be adversely affected, as determined by a dentist.
4. Inmates who require treatment beyond the experience of the dental staff will be referred to a recognized dental specialist.
5. Treatment plan with x-rays for those inmates who request care with more than twelve months detention.
6. All other services as specified in the Health Services Contract.