



## ENDODONTIC PROTOCOL

Our goal is to relieve pain and address the most urgent needs. Please remember this is not like performing endodontic treatment in your office where more options are available to you and the patient has the ability to access a dentist more frequently.

Endodontic therapy at a MOM program is indicated for teeth of critical importance that can be restored adequately and predictably at the current MOM event. It is not a service to be performed on teeth that would require a more complex restoration than is possible at this event. This will only delay the ultimate loss of the tooth and thus possibly create a hurdle for the patient in the near future. These teeth without a doubt should be extracted.

Endodontics should be considered for:

- Anterior teeth and bicuspid. (\*\*Molar endodontic procedures are to be performed only in special, very limited circumstances where the tooth is considered critical. The Endo Lead will make this determination.)
- A tooth with adequate coronal tooth structure present and no loss of cuspal structure such that it can be restored with a direct restoration at the MOM event.
- A tooth with an existing crown and no decay present.
- A tooth that is an abutment for an existing fixed or removable partial denture and can be successfully restored at the current MOM event.

Any tooth with a questionable prognosis or diagnosis must be evaluated by the Endodontic Lead. He/she will determine the practicality of performing endo on the tooth based upon radiographic interpretation, restorability, and difficulty of the case. He/she may need to consult with the Restorative Lead before making the final decision. The following will apply to those teeth in need of endodontic treatment:

1. The patient will be anesthetized before arriving in your chair. Ensure that the patient is still numb before proceeding. Apply additional anesthetic as needed.
2. Printed radiographs will arrive with the patient. Radiographs are to stay with the patient folder.
3. Complete patient registration form to indicate the service provided and the treating dentist's name.
4. Please PRINT on the patient charts – DO NOT USE ABBREVIATIONS.
5. Only **BLUE** pens should be used on patient charts – NO BLACK ink.
6. Patients are not allowed to walk unattended on the clinic floor. Use your station cards for moving patients or for problems.

## STATION CARD COLOR CODE:

- a. **Green** – bring me a patient
  - b. **Red** – take the patient to Exit Interview
  - c. **Yellow** – need translator
  - d. **Orange** – need dental technician
  - e. **Purple** – requesting a Nomad X-ray
  - f. White w/ red cross – EMT needed
7. Patient escorts should take patient to record verification when treatment is completed and then on to Exit Interview.
  8. Translators are available and will be wearing yellow MOM t-shirts.
  9. If you stick yourself or are stuck with an instrument, immediately notify the department lead.
  10. Please bring your DEA number for prescription writing purposes. The department head will have prescription forms available; however, you are welcome to bring your own forms. Prescription forms will not be needed for Acetaminophen, Amoxicillin, Clindamycin, Ibuprofen or Tramadol. Those will be indicated on the patient registration form and the patient will receive them free-of-charge onsite. Any other prescription will be at the patient's expense.
  11. Please stagger your lunch breaks. Be sure to let the department head know how long you will be gone. Depending on the time you will be absent, someone else may use the chair while you are gone so patient flow isn't disrupted.

## STERILIZATION and INSTRUMENTS

- 1) Remove all sharps from the instruments before taking them to sterilization – do not walk on the clinic floor with sharps. Sharps containers are located at the end of each table.
- 2) You or your assistant is responsible for making sure your personal instruments are identified as yours when they go through sterilization. To ensure this, drop your instruments off at the side of the table marked “Dirty Personal Instruments” and have your name written on the sterilization pouch(es) and leave the pouch(es) on the tray with the instruments. You will pick them up at the “Clean Personal Instruments” station.
- 3) If you are using MOM instruments, be sure to take them to the “Dirty MOM Instruments” side of sterilization.
- 4) Broken MOM instruments should be returned to sterilization. Do NOT throw them away.