

Dental Assistant Protocol

If you have arranged in advance to work with a specific dentist you will be able to do so. If not, you will be assigned to an area, once there please stay in your area. However, if you find you are without someone to work with in that department, let that department lead know you are leaving and go find the Dental Assistant Lead and she will find you an assignment.

Take only supplies and instruments for the patient being treated. No hoarding. We constantly run out of supplies and instruments.

Use universal precautions while treating patients. Wear gloves, masks, gowns and protective eye wear. None of these items should be taken/worn out of treatment room. You need to bring your own eye wear.

Use barriers where possible like tray liners. Never touch paper charts with gloves. Always use new gloves when grabbing clean instruments and supplies.

Wear gloves at all times when transporting instruments to dirty instrument area, and biohazard, amalgam and sharps to their appropriate areas. Make sure needles are taken off BEFORE syringes are taken to sterilization. Absolutely no needles should end up in sterilization.

When stopping the suction, hold it up in the air and run peroxide solution in the lines after every patient.

The Dr will review the patient record and take them to a waiting ambassador while the assistant wipes down entire area and resets.

All patients, at all times must have an ambassador or other volunteer take them anywhere on the clinic floor. They should never wander on their own – this includes being taken to the restroom (the ambassador will wait outside the restroom to take them back to the clinic floor).

You and your provider are responsible for making sure your personal instruments are identified as yours when they go through sterilization. Have the provider's name written on the pouches provided. You will pick them up from the "Clean Personal Instruments" station.

Broken MOM instruments should be returned to sterilization and inform someone there that the instrument is broken.

Make sure to coordinate breaks with the provider you are working with. When leaving the area for breaks, please place an "on break" sign indicating the approximate return time on the treatment chair.

Any needle stick or instrument stick need to be reported to a department lead. They will guide you in the correct protocol.

Speak to your department lead about any problems or lapses of universal precautions or questions in your area. We are here to help you and you never need to confront or question anyone on your own.

DO NOT adjust chair height - ask dental equipment technician or department lead.

Lastly, smile and please have fun. You are doing a great service so enjoy yourself!

THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF THE MISSION !!