

PEDIATRIC PROTOCOL

Thank you for participating in Mission of Mercy. Our goal is to relieve pain and address the most urgent need(s). Providing care at this event is not like doing dentistry in your dental office. We have made every effort to provide you with materials and instruments you may be familiar with, however our supplies are finite. Your time with each patient is also limited to what you can do to help get them stable and out of pain. Unfortunately, we may not be able to resolve every one of their dental needs during this mission. If the patient has a particular area that is painful or needs attention, it will be listed on their registration paperwork. Please reference those concerns prior to initiating treatment.

1. Just as in a dental office or clinic, Universal Precautions must be adhered to. This includes wearing personal protective equipment. Gloves, masks, eye protection, and gowns must be used during patient treatment. Everyone providing treatment shall wear disposable gowns. Gloves, masks, and disposable gowns will be provided. All providers, including assistants, are expected to bring their own eye protection.
2. The paper charts are NOT to be touched with gloved hands at any time.
3. Verify informed consent has been initialed.
4. Nomad x-rays are available on an as needed basis. Please don't request an x-ray unless absolutely necessary. X-Rays will be viewed from the patient portal using the iPad provided.
5. For our program, a Pediatric Patient is defined as a child 10 years of age or younger.
6. The Pediatric Department will review medical and dental history and develop a treatment plan.
7. Please triage treatment into work that can be completed within a 45 minute time span – e.g. *Quadrant Dentistry*
8. If you have an emergency, there are EMT services on site. Stay with the patient, send your assistant to alert the department head who will immediately alert the EMT. Either you or your assistant should hold up the EMT station card so the EMT can quickly identify where to go once they have been alerted.
9. Please **PRINT** on the patient charts – DO NOT USE ABBREVIATIONS. Just as in your office, all treatment and advisements should be recorded on the patient chart. If you don't record it, we don't know the work has been done.
10. Only **BLUE** pens should be used on patient charts – NO BLACK ink.
11. Station cards are used in the other areas of Mission of Mercy. Due to the way our department is set up, we do not use these communication cards. However, in the event that you help in a different area, please familiarize yourself with these communication tools. Use your station cards when you need the following assistance:
 - a. **Yellow** – translator needed
 - b. **Orange** – equipment problems
 - c. **Purple** – requesting a Nomad x-ray (the pediatric section has our own x-ray area)
 - d. White w/ red cross – EMT needed
12. When you are ready for a patient, notify the pediatric patient coordinator to send in the next patient from the waiting area. When treatment is completed, the dentist should take the patient to record verification and wait while the data entry person verifies that the record is complete. The patient ambassador will take the patient from there, along with the clipboard and patient record, to the pharmacy if needed, otherwise directly to the exit area.

13. Adults and children 11 and older that are accompanying pediatric patients will be seen in the adult section of the pediatric area. Once all family members are done being treated, a Patient Ambassador will escort the entire family to Patient Exit.
14. Interpreters are available.
15. If you stick yourself or are stuck with an instrument, immediately notify the department lead who will follow the needle stick/sharp instrument protocol.
16. The local co-chair (Dr Crum) will write out prescriptions for meds not available onsite. Prescription forms will not be needed for Acetaminophen, Amoxicillin, Azithromycin and Ibuprofen. Those will be indicated on the patient registration form and the patient will receive those free of charge onsite. Any other prescription will be at the patient's expense offsite at a pharmacy of their choice. ONLY A 3-DAY PAIN MED SHOULD BE WRITTEN.
17. Please stagger your lunch breaks. While you are on break, another dentist may move into your chair so patient flow isn't disrupted.
18. DO NOT adjust chair height, ask dental equipment technician or department lead.

STERILIZATION and INSTRUMENTS

- 1) Remove all sharps from the instruments before taking them to sterilization – do not walk on the clinic floor with sharps.
- 2) All instruments will be bagged or wrapped in Sterilization.
- 3) You or your assistant are responsible for making sure that 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 "Used 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 from at the "Clean Personal Instruments" station.
- 4) If you are using ADCF instruments, be sure to take them to the "Used ADCF Instruments" side of sterilization.
- 5) Broken ADCF instruments should be returned to sterilization, do NOT throw them away.
- 6) Suction lines need to be flushed after every patient per the MOM protocol. There is a container with a bleach solution to be used. Use one small paper cup of the bleach solution.
- 7) Scrap amalgam and teeth with amalgam shall be placed in the appropriate containers for amalgam disposal.
- 8) Biowaste shall be placed in the appropriate red biowaste containers. Please do not put non-biowaste in red containers as it adds unnecessary expense to the disposal.

PLEASE BE FLEXIBLE and THANK YOU for participating today.

May 2025