



**PRISONS**  
**Health and Wellness Services**  
**Policies and Procedures**

<b>Title</b>	Dental Responsibilities			
<b>Section</b>	TX V-1	<b>Issue Date</b> July 2020	<b>Supersedes Date</b> May 2013	<b>Next Review Date</b> June 2021

**References**

**Performance-Based Standards and Expected Practices for Adult Correctional Institutions, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition 5-ACI-6A-19**

**I. PURPOSE**

To describe responsibilities for the provision of offender dental care.

**II. POLICY**

Dental Services is comprised of a group of health professionals in the Division of Prisons who are professionally trained in the delivery of dental care.


- (a) The Correctional Dental Director has the responsibility to develop and implement a program that provides medically necessary dental care to offenders.
- (b) The Correctional Dental Director has statewide responsibility for the supervision of the dental program under the Director of Health and Wellness.
- (c) The Dental Program at a facility shall be under the supervision of a duly licensed dentist who will report to the Correctional Dental Director clinically and to the Warden or designee administratively.
- (d) The responsibilities of the facility dentist will include the following:
  - (1) Provide access to treatment and dental care that meets community standards.
  - (2) Procurement of supplies and equipment necessary for the operation of the dental program.
  - (3) Supervision of auxiliary dental personnel.
  - (4) Responsibility for implementing policies and procedures as stated in the Health Services Manual.



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- (5) Ensure that operation of the clinic complies with the Dental Statutes of North Carolina and regulatory requirements of the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners and other applicable regulatory agencies.
  
- (6) Work with the Administrative Supervisor to ensure that the delivery of dental care is delivered within the custody requirements of that facility.
  
- (e) The Correctional Dental Director may assign clinical responsibilities to dental staff outside of their facility of assignment. Such activities may include providing treatment at other dental clinics, dental education of referring health professionals, use of dental auxiliary staff in offender screening, and assisting in resolution of problems which may exist between dental staff and facility staff.

  
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 Todd E. Ishee  
 Commissioner of Prisons

07/16/20  
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 Date