 Nebraska Mission of Mercy

ENDODONTIC PROTOCOL

Endodontic therapy at the MOM Program is indicated for teeth of critical importance that can be restored adequately and predictably at the current MOM event. Our goal is to relieve pain and address the most urgent needs. Please remember this is not like doing dentistry in your office where more options are available and the patient has access to a dentist frequently.

Limited Endodontic treatment will be available. Endo will be considered based on the following:

-Anterior tooth with sound coronal tooth structure

-Posterior teeth (no Molars) with sound coronal tooth structure

-Tooth exposed during excavation that endo can be completed on tooth.

All teeth being considered for endodontic treatment will be evaluated by the endodontic department captain. He/she will determine the practicality of performing endo on a tooth based upon radiographic interpretation, restorability and difficulty of the case. He/she may need to consult with an endodontist and/or restorative lead before making final decision.

Once a patient is referred to endodontics, the following protocols should be followed:

1. Just as in a dental office or clinic, Universal Precautions must be adhered to. This includes wearing personal protective equipment. 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. Complete patient registration form to indicating the tooth number next to the corresponding treatment codes you worked on.

5. Indicate any prescriptions to be filled at the onsite pharmacy on the patient form.

5. Please PRINT on the patient charts – DO NOT USE ABBREVIATIONS

Patients are not allowed to walk unattended on the clinic floor. Use your station cards for moving patients or for problems. Everyone should be aware of cards.

Red- Take patient to exit

Green-Bring me a patient

Yellow-Equipment problem

Blue- Lunch/ break

Orange- EMT-medical team

No provider- purple

STERILIZATION and INSTRUMENTS

1. Remove all sharps from the instruments before taking them to sterilization – do not walk on the clinic floor with sharps. Instruments that came in a cassette should be put back into the cassette before being taken to Sterilization.

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. Unless instruments are in a cassette, they will need to be individually bagged so make sure that there are enough bags with your name on them to do so.

4. If you are using instruments provided at the event, be sure to take them to the “Used MOM Instruments” side of sterilization or to the designated bins in your treatment area.

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 line cleaner to be used. Use one small paper cup of line cleaner after each patient.

7. Scrap amalgam and teeth with amalgam shall be placed in the appropriate containers for amalgam disposal located in the restorative department.

8. Biowaste shall be placed in the appropriate red biowaste containers. Please do not put non-biowaste, such as used gowns and gloves in the red containers as it adds unnecessary expense to the disposal.

9. Before leaving your station at the end of your shift, be sure to wipe down all surfaces of the chair and dental equipment with a Caviwipe, including foot pedal and leave the used caviwipe on the chair so we know it was done. Return all unused supplies to the supply area.

Our goal is to relieve pain and address the most urgent needs.

The greatest gift we can give to our patients is our care.

Remember to start only what we can be completed in one hour.