

# CLASSIFICATION SPECIFICATION

## Dental Hygienist

FT/PT Class Code: 5125, 5625      Pay Grade: B/C 14      FLSA: Non-Exempt      Est. 07/01/10

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** An incumbent will support the Dentist and Dental Health Center at the Stanton/Wilmington Campus by performing cursory dental health exams, cleaning teeth, maintaining dental records, advising the Dentist of findings, and performing and processing dental x-rays.

### NATURE AND SCOPE:

An incumbent reports to a technical supervisor. Work includes cleaning and polishing teeth, instructing patients in good oral hygiene habits and after care for dental treatments rendered, and providing other preventative dental care.

### PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES:

***An incumbent may perform any combination of the below listed accountabilities:***

1. Performs debridement procedures to remove plaque and calculus, both supragingivally and subgingivally as determined by patient Care Level.
2. Performs thorough head and neck examinations to inspect for oral cancer and other problems.
3. Takes comprehensive medical histories to reveal conditions which necessitate precautions, modifications or adaptations during appointments to assure dental or dental hygiene procedures will not harm the patient or dental personnel; thereby preventing emergency situations.
4. Assesses and records diseases or abnormalities (e.g. IOE, OE, comprehensive probing, and caries/restorative charting).
5. Develops and implements individual preventative dental hygiene care plans.
6. Exposes, develops, and interprets oral radiographs.
7. Presents patient education to improve patient's oral health and achieve overall health.
8. Provides nutritional counseling, applies chemotherapeutic agents, fluorides or pit and fissure sealants to prevent disease.
9. Performs other related duties as required.

## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:**

- ◇ Knowledge of dental hygiene diagnosis and treatment.
- ◇ Knowledge of the information and techniques needed to diagnose and treat dental diseases and deformities. This includes symptoms, treatment alternatives, drug properties and interactions, and preventive health care measures.
- ◇ Knowledge of the principles and processes for providing patient and personal services. This included patient needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of patient satisfaction.
- ◇ Knowledge of the principles and methods for patient education and instruction for individuals.
- ◇ Knowledge of infection control principles and procedures.
- ◇ Knowledge of dental software.
- ◇ Knowledge of dental hygiene diagnosis and treatment.
- ◇ Excellent interpersonal, communication, and organizational skills.
- ◇ Effective time management and organizational skills.
- ◇ Ability to communicate with patients, caregivers, dentists, and other dental personnel effectively.
- ◇ Ability to think critically, problem solve and make decision effectively.
- ◇ Ability to work independently and as a team member.

## **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

- ◇ Bachelor's degree in a relevant field and two (2) year of experience; or other equivalent combination of education and experience.
- ◇ Possession of a Delaware Dental Hygienist License or eligibility for a Delaware license.