

GALVESTON COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

4C's Clinics, Public Health Programs, Galveston E.M.S.

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Scope of Services Policy for 4C's Dental Clinics

Comprehensive primary oral health services: Personal oral health care, delivered in the context of family, culture, and community, which includes all but the most specialized oral health needs of the individuals being served. The range of services includes preventive care and education, outreach, emergency services, basic restorative services, and periodontal services. Additional services may include basic rehabilitative services that replace missing teeth to enable the individual to eat, benefit from enhanced self-esteem, and have increased employment acceptability

The 4C's Dental Clinics have the following Scope of Services:

Acute Emergency Dental Services (Required): Services which eliminate acute infection, control bleeding, relieve pain, and treat injuries to the maxillofacial and intra-oral regions.

Activities: diagnosis, pulp therapy, tooth extraction, palliative or temporary restorations and fillings, periodontal therapy, and prescription of medications.

Prevention and Diagnosis (Required): Services that protect individuals and communities against disease agents by placing barriers between an agent and host and/or limits the impact of a disease once an agent and host have interacted so that a patient community can be restored to health. Risk assessment should occur for children, in particular, in migrant camps, homeless shelters and community schools where at risk children attend.

Activities: professional oral health assessment, dental sealants, professional applied topical fluorides and supplement prescriptions where necessary, oral prophylaxis, and patient community education on self maintenance and disease prevention, and pediatric dental screening to assess need.

Treatment of Dental Disease Early Intervention Services (Program Expectation):

Basic dental services which maintain and restore oral health function:

Activities: restorative services which include dental fillings and single unit crowns; periodontal (gum and bone) maintenance services such as periodontal scaling, non-surgical periodontal therapy; space maintenance procedures to prevent orthodontic complications for patients 3-13; endodontic therapy to prevent tooth loss; and interceptive orthodontic treatment provided to prevent severe malocclusion for patients 6-12.

Services for Special Needs Patients: Special needs patients include, but are not limited to, those with developmental disabilities, genetic disorders, or those with acquired medical disabilities such as HIV and tuberculosis.

Rehabilitative Services (optional): Provision of low cost solutions to replace dentition that would allow patients to obtain employment, education, or enhance self esteem. (This requires cost sharing or co-payments from patient.)

Activities: fabrication of removable prosthetics such as dentures and partial dentures, single or multiple unit fixed prosthetics, elective oral surgery, and other specialty services.

4C's Policy for Restorative Services

Sole use of Stainless Steel Crowns

Root canal therapy on posterior teeth are selective and limited. Placement of porcelain or noble metal crowns is cost prohibitive. Stainless steel crowns are the only alternative

Limited Root Canals

Being selective with root canal therapy is a must. Youth 6 to 18 with good oral hygiene and no missing teeth are excellent candidates. However, they must be informed that at this facility only stainless steel crowns are placed as a final restoration.

Anterior root canals are done when there is limited tooth destruction and a post and/or composite can be placed as a final restoration. No porcelain and/or noble crowns are permitted when there are missing teeth and all treatment plans should be modified to reach completion utilizing a partial or full removable appliance.

Fixed appliances or implants are not to be used.

Effective Date – April 1, 2008