



PRISONS
Health and Wellness Services
Policies and Procedures

Title	Preventive Dentistry			
Section	TX V-5	Issue Date November 12, 2020	Supersedes Date May 2014	Next Review Date November 2021

References

**Performance-Based Standards
and Expected Practices for Adult
Correctional Institutions,
5th Edition 5-ACI-6A-19,
5-ACI-6A-20**

I. PURPOSE

To provide guidelines on preventive dentistry.

II. POLICY

Dental staff shall promote offender oral hygiene.

III. PROCEDURE

(a) Instructions in oral hygiene and dental health education are given to offenders upon admission and will consist of measures to assist them in caring for their dental health. Dental health education should include instructions on how and when to use a toothbrush and how to remove interdental plaque. Correctional dental facilities may display oral hygiene posters or provide educational pamphlets obtainable through reputable dental organizations such as the American Dental Association (www.ada.org), American Dental Hygienists' Association (www.adha.org), or state or local public health agencies.

(b) Each offender will be given access to a toothbrush, toothpaste, and *dental floss via admission toiletry kits, welfare kits (if indigent), or the canteen.

*Dental floss or floss aids are recommended by Dental Services. In the correctional system, floss is dispensed in consideration of security issues as determined by the facility Warden.

Todd E. Ishee
Commissioner of Prisons

11/12/20
Date