

Roles and Responsibilities- Oral Hygienist

Role Overview:

The Oral Hygienist plays a vital role in promoting oral health and preventing dental diseases. This role focuses on patient education, preventative care, and clinical procedures under the supervision of a dentist. The hygienist supports the delivery of comprehensive dental services to improve patients' oral health and overall well-being.

Key Responsibilities:

Preventative & Clinical Care

- Perform oral health assessments and record findings in patient records.
- Provide professional teeth cleaning, including scaling, polishing, and fluoride treatments.
- Apply sealants or other preventive agents as directed by the dentist.
- Conduct oral cancer screenings and identify potential oral health concerns for dentist review.
- Support periodontal care and maintenance for patients with gum disease.

Patient Education & Engagement

- Educate patients on proper oral hygiene techniques, including brushing, flossing, and diet advice.
- Develop tailored oral health plans to help patients prevent dental problems.
- Promote awareness about the link between oral health and systemic health conditions, such as diabetes or cardiovascular disease.

Infection Control & Safety

- Follow strict infection control protocols for all instruments, equipment, and clinical areas.
- Ensure compliance with workplace health and safety standards.
- Maintain a clean, organized, and safe clinical environment.

Collaboration & Support

- Work closely with dentists, dental assistants, and other team members to ensure smooth patient care.
- Provide clinical notes and updates to support comprehensive treatment planning.
- Assist with chairside procedures or administrative tasks as required.

Compliance & Documentation

- Maintain accurate, confidential, and up-to-date patient records.
- Adhere to professional codes of conduct, legal regulations, and practice policies.
- Report any incidents, risks, or equipment issues promptly.

Professional Development

- Keep up-to-date with advancements in oral health care, technologies, and techniques.
- Attend professional development training and maintain current registration and certifications.