Standard Range of Oral Health Services

1. Purpose
This guideline outlines recommendations regarding the provision of adequate and effective general dental practitioner services to eligible Queenslanders.

2. Scope
This Guideline provides information for all dental practitioners and oral health services staff employed within the Queensland public health system (permanent, temporary and casual).


3.1. Oral Health Service Provision
3.1.1. Hospital and Health Services are responsible for providing an adequate and effective range of general dental practitioner services to eligible Queenslanders to:

- prevent new oral diseases and promote oral health
- minimise the effects of existing oral diseases and conditions
- enable satisfactory function and appearance

3.2. Clinical Considerations
3.2.1. The provision of clinical services to a patient is subject to clinical assessment and judgement which includes consideration of the following:

- medical and dental history
- lifestyle and behavioural risk factors
- patient concerns
- current oral health status
- ability of the patient to maintain their oral health
- the patient’s commitment to receiving care

3.3. Standard Range of Services
3.3.1. A standard range of oral health services must be available in all Hospital and Health Services during business hours. The standard range of services includes the following:

- diagnostic services including radiography
- preventive and early intervention services
- individual oral health education
- restorations
- simple extractions and minor oral surgery
- acrylic removable prosthesis
- anterior endodontics
- management of simple orthodontic anomalies in children
- palliative emergency care

3.4. **Extension of the Standard Range of Services**

3.4.1. Services outside of the standard range outlined above can be provided to the extent of the individual dental practitioner’s scope of practice (education, training and competence) and the time and material resources available.

3.4.2. Where a Hospital and Health Service identifies particular needs, dental specialists may be employed to provide services outside of the standard range.

3.4.3. In areas where waiting times for care are longer than recommended, services outside of the standard range may be offered at the discretion of management and/or as per local policy. Offering services outside of the standard range should not jeopardise the availability of the standard range of services.

4. **Definitions of terms used in the guideline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition / Explanation / Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic service</td>
<td>Examinations, radiological examination and interpretation, other diagnostic services (e.g. bacteriological examination, mucosal screening, pulp testing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preventive and early intervention services</td>
<td>Removal of plaque and/or stain, removal of calculus, application of remineralising agents, dietary advice, oral hygiene instruction, application of fissure sealants, brief intervention smoking cessation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restorations</td>
<td>Restoration of cavity preparations using direct restorative materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acrylic removable prosthesis</td>
<td>Provision of new, modification and/or repair of acrylic dentures</td>
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5. **Document approval details**

**Document custodian**

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**Approval officer**

Michael Walsh, Director-General

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6. **Version control**

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<th>Version</th>
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<td>1.0</td>
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