

NORTH CAROLINA DENTAL SOCIETY



North Carolina Missions of Mercy

Why and How to Volunteer?

Volunteering at a Missions of Mercy project allows each of us to renew a sense of commitment and service with our communities, our state and ourselves. It is a soul satisfying experience because it comes from the goodness of your own heart, with no expectation of receiving anything in return. Your service at an NCMOM event also highlights the continued problem of access to care to the citizens, legislature, and leaders of North Carolina and proves the North Carolina Dental Society is the leading voice of dentistry in the state.

Community and Professional Volunteers are needed to make this important program successful. To volunteer, visit the NC Dental Society website, www.ncdental.org and click on Community Outreach or NC MOM and register on-line or download a volunteer form to fax or mail.

Mission Statement

The North Carolina Missions of Mercy (NCMOM) offers free dental treatment to those in financial need who have few or no other options for care. In North Carolina, the problem of access to dental care has reached nearly epidemic proportions. More than one million adults and children have no source for regular dental care. Many have never seen a dentist, and many suffer the complications of advanced dental disease. The NCMOM program is staffed by volunteers from across the State and funded by tax deductible donations to the NC Dental Health Fund. For more information, contact the North Carolina Dental Society at (919) 677-1396.

Dental Professional Volunteers - Information

Scope of Services

Dental services provided include amalgam/composite restorations, extractions, preventive and periodontal services, wire clasp partial dentures replacing anterior teeth only, limited endodontics and some minor adjustment of oral appliances.

Schedule

Patient registration for "agency groups" will begin at 5:00PM Thursday December 1st.

Patient registration for individuals and families begins at 6:00 AM Friday December 2nd and 6:00 AM Saturday December 3rd

The clinics will operate from 6:00 AM- 6:00 PM Friday, and 6:00AM- 6:00 PM Saturday

Please arrive at least 1 hour prior to the shift you have volunteered for. You must register at the Volunteer Check-in Station each day you enter the clinical area whether you are participating or not.

Volunteer Orientation

A volunteer's arrival at least 1 hour prior to their volunteer shift will allow time for orientation that will start immediately following your registration.

License

Dentists and Dental Hygienists, please bring a copy of your current NC license. The wallet-sized version is fine.

Equipment and Supplies

Services will be rendered using A•dec portable equipment including chairs, units with built-in suction, and lights. Amalgamators and curing lights will be available for each restorative area. Infection control will be practiced using gowns, masks, gloves, sterilization, and disinfection as required to provide a safe operating environment for both volunteers and patients. Instruments will be provided using a cassette system, with sterilization procedures performed on site.

Radiographs will consist of digital periapicals or panoramics. Select patients will have pre-treatment images taken of the tooth/teeth in question as part of the registration/triage process and prior to being seated in the post triage waiting area.

All basic supplies including restorative materials, burs, anesthetics and disposable items will be provided. Although the available supplies will be adequate to provide the services described, you may want to consider bringing additional supplies to make the delivery of care more convenient. A list of additional supplies is included for your consideration. (Please refer to "What to Bring on page 4.)

All dental health care personnel engaged in direct patient-care in the operatory area must use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (e.g., gloves, masks, protective eyewear or face shield, and gowns). All PPE should be removed before leaving patient-care areas. Masks should be changed between patients and disposable gowns when visibly soiled or penetrated by other potentially infectious materials.

Medications

Available on site and distributed as requested by practitioners: over-the-counter analgesics, such as acetaminophen and ibuprofen as well as a limited formulary of prescription medicines. Several antibiotics will be available for administration to patients requiring pre-medication. Patients requiring pre-medication will be identified during registration, with appropriate antibiotic administered during the required time period prior to treatment.

Blood Pressure Exam/Health History

Blood pressure measurements will be taken on all patients after registration and prior to treatment. Patients exhibiting elevated blood pressure measurements or with health history concerns will be assessed by a qualified individual on site to determine whether the patient will receive dental treatment.

Can My Assistant Be Assigned to Assist me During the Event?

Yes. Please make note of it in the volunteer registration form. Also, please make sure that your assistant also registers and notes on their form whom they will be assisting.

Patient Flow

1 **REGISTRATION**
Patient Information

2 **HEALTH SCREENING**
Health History
Blood Pressure / Pulse

3 **X-RAY**
Panoramic
Periapical
Bitewing
• Patients are escorted from post-triage waiting area to treatment chair on clinic floor

4 **TRIAGE**
Oral Exam
Treatment recommendations
Pre-meds given
• Patients may be given a color-coded wristband

5 **TREATMENT**
Hygiene
Extractions
Restorations
• Be sure to sign name, fill out the treatment that was completed, and place in the yellow tray. Please write legibly.
• Patients are escorted to recovery or checkout

6 **RECOVERY**

7 **CHECKOUT**
Patients have an opportunity for comments

Reminders

- **All volunteers** must register **EACH DAY** at the volunteer check-in station.
- **Food:** Continental breakfast-type items, sandwich-type lunch items, and water will be available in a designated Volunteer Break Area at the rear of the clinic building. If you have special dietary requirements, please make your own food arrangements.
- **Clothing:** Scrubs and comfortable shoes will be appropriate.
- **Translators** will be available on site for Hispanic patients who cannot speak English.
- **Volunteers and patients** will be wearing wristbands at some large clinics sponsored by the North Carolina Dental Society:

Gold	NCDS Volunteer	Yellow	Hygiene Patient
Silver	Local Volunteer	Green	Restoration Patient
Purple	Guest	Red	Extraction Patient

Some volunteers may also be wearing vests:

Red	Parking Attendants/Patient Greeters		
Tan	Health Screeners/Triage Scribes		
Purple	Registration/Check-Out	Blue	Patient Escorts
Yellow	Translators	Green	Runners/Trash Disp.
Blue with White Chest Stripe	Patient Flow Coordinator		
Green with White Chest Stripe	Local Coordinator		
Red with White Chest Stripe	NCDS Coordinator		

What to Bring

Although all essential materials and supplies will be available for your use, please realize that the facilities to deliver treatment may not be ideal. In order for you to feel as comfortable as possible, the following suggestions may be helpful:

- **Dentists:** Bring your own chair-side dental assistant. The two of you know each other very well, and the treatment will proceed more smoothly than working with a stranger.
- **Hygienists:** Please consider bringing your own Cavitron and any favorite tips.
- High-speed and slow-speed handpieces, with an assortment of burs, will be provided. If you have a favorite 4-hole high-speed hand piece, please bring it along with any favorite burs.

Other items previous volunteers have found helpful:

- Experienced volunteer dentists often arrive with their favorite materials and supplies. (If you bring any equipment or supplies that will need sterilization, please make sure it is placed in a sterilization pouch with your name on the pouch so it can be returned to you.)
- **Headlamp** or other light source to illuminate the oral cavity. A portable light on a tripod base is provided at each treatment station.
- **Vision magnification** equipment if used.
- Please **DO NOT** bring any valuables to the clinic site; leave them at home, or lock them in the trunk of your car.
- Please **DO** bring your patience, flexibility, sense of humor, and ability to make the best of any situation.