

1. IDENTIFICATION

Position No.	Job Title	Supervisor's Position	Fin. Code
10-XXXXX	Dental Therapist	Public Health Nurse 10-XXXX	
Department	Division/Region	Community	Location
Health and Social Services	Dental		

2. PURPOSE

Main reason why the position exists, within what context and what the overall end result is.
To deliver comprehensive dental services, conduct preventive dental health education, promote dental hygiene and maintain records of services provided.

3. SCOPE

Describe in what way the position contributes to and impacts on the organization.
The Dental Therapist ensures the effective functioning of the Dental Program which impacts the dental health of young people in the region.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

Describe major responsibilities and target accomplishments expected of the position. For a management position, indicate the subordinate position(s) through which objectives are accomplished.
<p>Provides essential dental services to mainly the school-age population by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing recall examinations after initial examination by a dentist. • Delivering, without treatment plans, emergency services required to alleviate pain. • Performing radiographic diagnosis of dental caries. • Referring to the dentist for diagnosis any abnormal oral or pathological conditions. • Placing pit and fissure sealants. • Operating x-ray equipment and exposing and developing intraoral dental radiographs. • Taking alginate impressions and pouring impressions for study models. • Administering local anaesthesia using infiltration and mandibular nerve block techniques. • Utilizing rubber dam for restorative procedures. • Preparing and placing silver amalgam and composite resin restorations. • Placement of stainless steel crowns on deciduous teeth. • Performing direct and indirect pulp capping. • Performing vital pulpotomies for deciduous teeth. • Opening into tooth pulp to relieve symptoms of acute irreversible pulpitis. • Finishing and polishing dental restorations. • Placing space maintainers as required. • Performing uncomplicated extractions or primary and permanent teeth including suture placement. • Providing post surgical complication treatment such as the control of hemorrhage and treatment of dry sockets.

- Providing periodontal services by charting periodontal pockets, performing supra and sub gingival scaling, cleaning and polishing teeth and management of pericoronitis.
- Recommending to the nurse, drugs which have been proven useful in certain dental situations.
- Referring patients to a dentist for dental services which cannot be performed by a dental therapist.

Conducts active preventive health education programs in schools and Health Centres to promote health and reduce the incidence of dental caries by:

- Providing individual chair side dental hygiene education on oral health awareness and behaviours, diet and plaque removal skills.
- Delivering classroom presentations on dental health and nutrition topics using lecture material, pamphlets, posters and films.
- Making prenatal/postnatal presentations.
- Presenting information to parent groups, teachers, health and educational committees, community health workers, nurses and other groups.
- Promoting community dental health through radio, TV, posters and presentations.
- Implementing territorial and federal oral health initiatives.

Delivers prophylactic treatments to reduce incidence of decay by:

- Scaling and polishing teeth using instruments, handpiece, rubber cup etc., in preparation for topical fluoride application.
- Applying topical fluoride materials.
- Placing of pit and fissure sealants.
- Establishing daily brushing program for school children.
- Initiating and monitoring a fluoride rinse or tablet program in the schools as required.
- Implementing territorial and federal oral health initiatives.

Maintains an efficient and safe clinical environment by:

- Implementing recognized measures of infection control and clinic hygiene.
- Practising radiation safety.
- Servicing and repairing equipment and instruments.
- Ordering and storing approved supplies in suitable quantities.

Prepares and maintains records and reports of provided services by:

- Obtaining parental consent for treatment.
- Obtaining patient data for the purpose of completing dental records and surveys.
- Completing dental charts for treatment plans as directed by a dentist.
- Maintaining dental records, progress notes, referral lists, class lists and community information in the Community Records Book.
- Completing daily work sheets and monthly reports and forwarding to regional office.
- Completing the examination forms for statistical data.

5. KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Describe the level of knowledge, experience and abilities that are required for satisfactory job performance.

- Diploma of Dental Therapy
- Licensure to work as a dental therapist in Nunavut.
- Ability to work with minimum supervision.
- Ability to obtain the cooperation and trust of patients.
- Ability to work in a cross cultural setting.
- Ability to handle a life threatening emergency that can arise due to drug reaction and/or dental treatment.
- Ability to use sound judgment to develop a dental program which meets the needs of a particular community.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Physical Demands

Indicate the nature of physical demands and the frequency and duration of occurrences leading to physical fatigue.

- Physical endurance is needed during long periods of performing treatments or demonstrations, often in awkward positions.
- Field trips to satellite communities requires the incumbent to carry heavy equipment between airport and vehicles.
- Requires sustained periods of concentration, precision work and coordination to operate dental drills, use anesthesia, restore teeth and perform extractions.

Environmental Conditions

Indicate the nature of adverse environmental conditions, to which the jobholder is exposed, and the frequency and duration of exposures. Include conditions that disrupt regular work schedules and travel requirements.

- Providing services for satellite communities may involve traveling in small planes in inclement weather and being away from home and family for extended periods.
- Exposure to infection during examination and treatment of patients.
- Majority of the time is spent providing services in isolated remote communities.

Sensory Demands

Indicate the nature of demands on the jobholder's senses to make judgements through touch, smell, sight and hearing, and judge speed and accuracy.

- Requires the use of all five senses.

Mental Demands

Indicate conditions that may lead to mental or emotional fatigue.

- Stress resulting from daily encounters with uncooperative or very young patients where English is not understood or spoken.
- Professional isolation due to limited contact with colleagues.

7. CERTIFICATION

<p>_____ Employee Signature</p> <p>_____ Printed Name</p> <p>_____ Date I certify that I have read and understand the responsibilities assigned to this position.</p>	<p>_____ Supervisor Title</p> <p>_____ Supervisor Signature</p> <p>_____ Date I certify that this job description is an accurate description of the responsibilities assigned to the position.</p>
<p>_____ Deputy Head Signature</p> <p>_____ Date I approve the delegation of the responsibilities outlined herein within the context of the Attached organizational structure.</p>	

8. ORGANIZATION CHART

Please Attach Organizational Chart indicating incumbent's position, peer positions, subordinate positions (if any) and supervisor position.

“The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by the incumbent of this job. They are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all responsibilities and activities required of this position”.