

Dental Hygiene Clinic at Chemeketa**Patient Selection, Appointment and Financial Policy****Patient Selection**

The purpose of the dental hygiene clinic is to give dental hygiene students the necessary experiences to become licensed professionals. All dental hygiene students are supervised by professional dental hygienists and dentists.

In order to best serve your needs, we will evaluate your oral and general health. If you are new to the clinic, your first appointment is a consultation. Based on the information gathered at this appointment, you will be scheduled with the level of student who can best meet your needs. If treatment by students is not in your best interest, you will be given a referral for care where your needs can be better met.

Patient Care

Any care you receive in our clinic will be individualized to meet your needs and will be performed only upon your consent. The services we can and cannot provide are outlined below.

1. Assessment

You will receive a thorough assessment to determine your oral condition and general health status, and to collect information that will be used to determine an individualized treatment plan. Assessments are performed at regular intervals.

2. Dental examination

All patients must have a dental examination by either the Oregon Tech Dental Hygiene Clinic dentist, or their "home" dentist before hygiene services can be performed, and a re-examination every 12-18 months. Oregon Tech has licensed dentists on staff who, after examination, can recommend any needed dental treatment, and will refer you back to your dental home for follow-up care.

3. Informed consent

You will be informed of the benefits, risks, alternatives, cost and time of planned treatment and will be able to ask questions about your treatment.

4. Dental hygiene services

Dental hygiene students may provide all services within the scope of dental hygiene practice.

These services include:

- Oral health assessment
- Oral cancer screening
- Dental imaging (x-rays)
- Oral prophylaxis (preventive cleanings)
- Non-surgical periodontal treatment (scaling and root planing or "deep cleaning")
- Pit and fissure sealants
- Fluoride therapy
- Nutrition analysis and counseling
- Tooth whitening
- Limited restorative procedures (simple fillings)

Dental hygiene students **CANNOT** provide:

- Complex restorations (fillings)
- Prosthodontics (crowns, partials, dentures)
- Endodontics (root canals)
- Orthodontics (braces)
- Surgery
- Extractions

5. Referral

All dental hygiene patients are referred back to their dental home after hygiene services are complete. If you do not have a dental home, you will be given contact information for local dentists. The dental hygiene clinic is not intended to replace regular examination and care by your dentist.

Appointments

Appointments are three hours in length and treatment usually requires more than one appointment. Students are graded for the work they do in clinic and if a patient does not show up for the appointment, they cannot be graded. Please honor students by keeping your appointment. In the event you must cancel an appointment, please call the dental hygiene clinic **at least 24 hours in advance** of the scheduled time.

Financial Responsibility

All fees will be explained to you at the time your treatment plan is developed. Fees for treatment are due at the time treatment is provided. You may pay by cash or check (no credit or debit cards).

When the OIT Dental Hygiene Clinic is Not in Your Best Interest

Sometimes a learning center is not the best place to meet your needs. The most common reason is the time investment. If you cannot dedicate at least three hours for the completion of treatment, please consider seeking care in a private practice or clinic.

Also, if you have complex dental, medical, or emotional conditions that are beyond the capabilities of students; or if patient responsibilities are not met you may be referred for care where your needs can be better met.

PATIENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Patient Bill of Rights

As a patient you have the right to:

1. Receive treatment without discrimination as to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or source of payment.
2. Receive considerate and respectful care in a clean and safe environment.
3. Adequate time to ask questions and receive answers regarding your dental condition and treatment plan for your care.
4. Know what the clinic feels is the optimal dental hygiene treatment plan as well as the right to ask for alternative treatment options.
5. An explanation of the purpose, probable (short and long term) results, alternatives, and risks involved before consenting to a proposed treatment plan.
6. Know in advance the expected cost of treatment.
7. Accept, defer or decline any part of your treatment recommendations.
8. Receive complete information about any referral that is advised.
9. Expect that sterilization and infection control procedures are followed.
10. Treatment that meets the standard of care in the profession.
11. Privacy and confidentiality of all your information and records.
12. Review your dental hygiene record.
13. Continuity and completion of treatment.
14. Refuse treatment, examination, observation, or research by any instructor or student.
15. Have questions, concerns, or complaints about care or services provided; and to seek a solution by discussing the matter with any student or instructor.

Patient Responsibilities

To allow staff, faculty, and students to meet patients' needs, we ask that you assume responsibility for:

1. Providing, to the best of your knowledge, accurate and complete information about present complaints, past illnesses, hospitalization, medication, and other matters relating to your health.
2. Reporting unexpected changes in your health to your clinician
3. Reporting whether you clearly comprehend the planned course of treatment and what is expected of you
4. Following the treatment plan recommended for your care
5. Keeping appointments punctually and, when you are unable to do so for any reason, notifying the clinic
6. Your actions if you refuse treatment or do not follow the clinician's instructions
7. Assuring that the financial obligations for your healthcare are promptly fulfilled
8. Being considerate of the right of other patients and clinic personnel
9. Being respectful to other patients, all students and clinic personnel.