

Dentures



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OBJECTIVES

Participants will:

- Review the Federal requirements related to dentures and dental services



OVERVIEW 483.55

- **§ 483.55 Dental Services**
- The facility must assist residents in obtaining routine and 24-hour emergency dental care.



OVERVIEW of Regulations

§ 483.55(a)(3)

- (A facility) Must have a policy identifying those circumstances when the loss or damage of dentures is the facility's responsibility and may not charge a resident for the loss or damage of dentures determined in accordance with facility policy to be the facility's responsibility



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Overview of Regulations

- **§ 483.55(a)(4)**
- (A facility) Must if necessary or if requested, assist the resident;
 - (i) In making appointments; and
 - (ii) By arranging for transportation to and from the dental services location and

Overview of Regulations

§ 483.55(a)(5)

- (A facility) Must promptly, within 3 days, refer residents with lost or damaged dentures for dental services. If a referral does not occur within 3 days, the facility must provide documentation of what they did to ensure the resident could still eat and drink adequately while awaiting dental services and the extenuating circumstances that led to the delay



Overview of Regulations

§ 483.55(b)(5)

- Must assist residents who are eligible and wish to participate to apply for reimbursement of dental services as an incurred medical expense under the State Plan



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Overview of Regulations

§ 483.10(i)(2) (F253)

- Housekeeping and maintenance services necessary to maintain a sanitary, orderly, and comfortable interior

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Overview of Regulations

- **§ 483.20(b) Comprehensive Assessments**
- (1) Resident Assessment Instrument
- (xi) Dental and nutritional status
- “Dental condition status” refers to the condition of the teeth, gums, and other structures of the oral cavity that may affect a resident’s nutritional status, communication abilities, or quality of life. The assessment should include the need for, and use of, dentures or other dental appliances.



Overview of Regulations

- **§ 483.25(g) (F325)**
- Assessment
- Chewing abnormalities – Many conditions of the mouth, teeth, and gums can affect the resident’s ability to chew foods. For example, oral pain, dry mouth, gingivitis, periodontal disease, **ill-fitting dentures**, and broken, decayed or missing teeth can impair oral intake.

DEFINITIONS

- **Broken Natural Teeth or Tooth Fragment** – Very large cavity, tooth broken off or decayed to gum line, or broken teeth (from a fall or trauma)
- **Chewing Abnormalities** – Many conditions of the mouth, teeth, and gums can affect the resident’s ability to chew foods. For example, oral pain, dry mouth, gingivitis, periodontal disease, ill-fitting dentures, and broken, decayed or missing teeth can impair oral intake



DEFINITIONS

- **Dental Condition Status** refers to the condition of the teeth, gums, and other structures of the oral cavity that may affect a resident's nutritional status, communication abilities or quality of life.
- **Emergency Dental Services** includes services needed to treat an episode of acute pain in teeth, gums, or palate; broken, or otherwise damaged teeth, or any other problem of the oral cavity by a dentist that required immediate attention.



DEFINITIONS

Oral Hygiene means maintaining the mouth in a clean and intact condition and treating oral pathology such as ulcers of the mucosa.

Services to maintain oral hygiene may include brushing the teeth, cleaning dentures, cleaning the mouth and tongue either by assisting the resident with a mouth wash or by manual cleaning with a gauze sponge; and application of medication as described

DEFINITIONS

- **Oral Lesions** – A discolored area of tissue (red, white, yellow, or darkened) on the lips, gums, tongue, palate, cheek lining, or throat.
- **Oral Mass** – A swollen or raised lump, bump, or nodule on any oral surface. May be hard or soft, and with or without pain
- **Ulcer** – Mouth sore, blister or eroded area of tissue on any oral surface

DEFINITIONS

Prompt Referral means within reason, as soon as the dentures are lost or damaged. Referral does not mean that the resident must see the dentist at that time, but does mean that an appointment (referral) is made, or that the facility is aggressively working at replacing the dentures



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DEFINITIONS

Routine Dental Services means an annual inspection of the oral cavity for signs of disease, diagnosis of dental disease, dental radiographs as needed, dental cleaning, fillings (new and repairs) minor dental plate adjustments, smoothing of broken teeth, and limited prosthodontic procedures, e.g., taking impressions for dentures and fitting dentures

Policy

- Ongoing assessment and care
- Resident's dentures are damaged or lost
 - refer the resident for dental services timely
 - within 3 days for an appointment
- Will not be charged for the repair or replacement of dentures
 - By facility staff



Procedure

- Identify
- Mark dentures
- Provide hand hygiene
- Inspect
 - Full dentures
 - Partial dentures



Procedure

- Inspect oral cavity
 - If resident is uncooperative or refused oral evaluation, refer for dental evaluation.
- Ask resident
 - Pain
 - Chewing concerns
 - Problems with fitting of the dentures.
- Partial dentures



Procedure

- Denture Cleaning:
 - Perform hand hygiene
 - Resident to remove
 - Inspect dentures
 - Place folded wash cloth or paper towel in sink and fill sink with 2-3 inches of water to protect dentures if accidentally dropped while cleaning



Procedure

Denture Cleaning-continued

- Clean
- NO toothpaste
- Rinse
- Place in labeled denture
- Remove gloves and provide hand hygiene.



Procedure

Denture Cleaning-continued

- Hand hygiene.
- Provide oral care
- Inspect oral surfaces
- Remove gloves
- Hand hygiene.
- Report



Procedure

Denture Cleaning-continued

- To replace dentures:
- Hand hygiene
- Rinse dentures
- Oral care
- Proper fit.
- Ask resident
- Remove gloves
- Hand hygiene.



Procedure

- Broken or chipped
- Problem with fitting
- Report to nurse.
- Referral
 - 3 Days
 - For extenuating circumstances of a delay
 - Assess



Procedure

- Once appointment is made, the nurse will work with Social Services to arrange transportation to and from dental office
- The nurse will assist the resident in obtaining both routine and 24-hour emergency dental care



Procedure

- The Interdisciplinary Team
 - Dentures and Dental Services (Section L: Oral/Dental Status)
 - MDS 3.0 RAI Process.
- Social Services
 - reimbursement of dental services



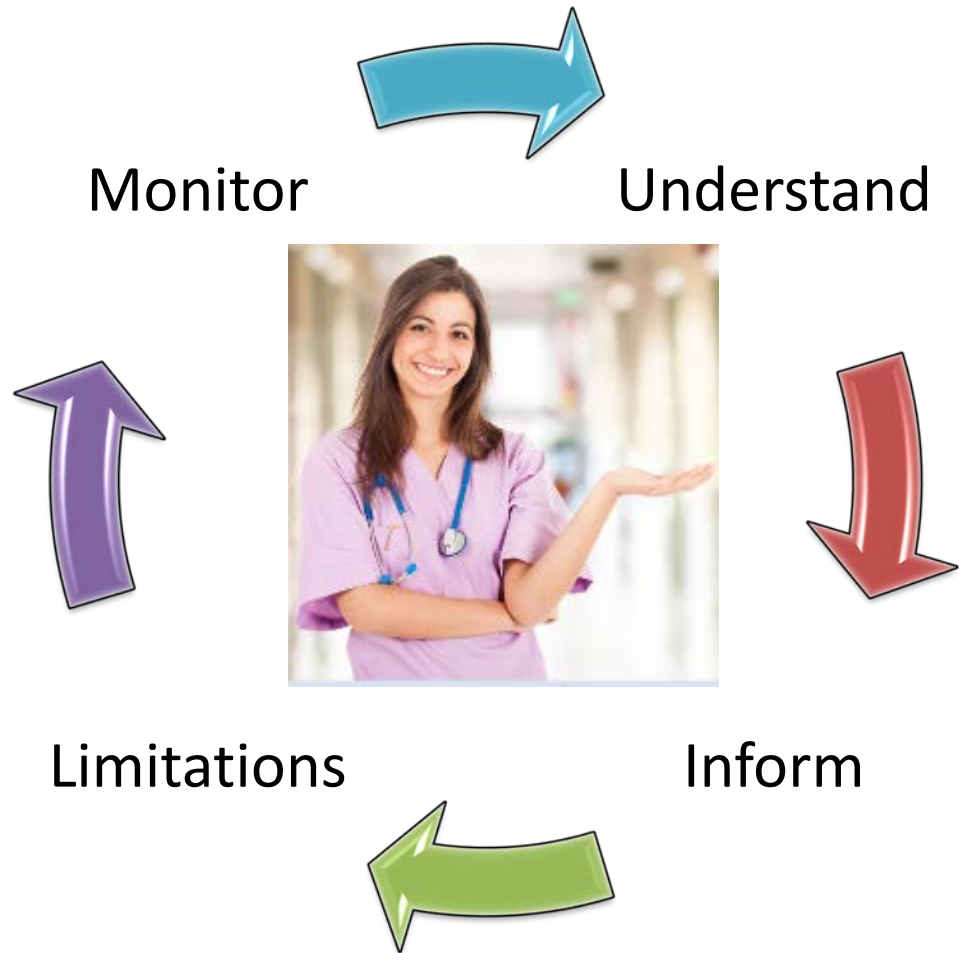
Procedure

- The facility will assume responsibility
 - Will not charge resident for the repair or replacement of dentures that are the result of facility and/or staff action or accident
 - Examples
- Dentures in poor repair, needing replacement, poor fitting dentures or dropped/damaged by resident will be the financial responsibility of the resident for repair/replacement



Facility Response

- Understand
- Inform
- Limitations
- Monitor



Understand

- It is essential that staff understand the importance of the items in the dentures policy and procedure
- Ensuring residents have dentures that are clean, fit appropriately and in good repair is essential for the resident's quality of life
- The IDT will need to understand the importance of identification of denture related problems in order to promptly make referrals for repair/replacement
- Staff also need to understand that the facility may be responsible to pay for repair and replacement in several instances



INFORM

- Caregivers will be informed of residents with dentures on admission
- CNA's will need to inform the nurse of any problems with resident's dentures, fitting, condition or oral integrity issues
- Nursing and Social Services will inform Dental Services for need for appointment
- Resident and Resident Representative will also be informed of policies and options



Limitations

- Knowledge
- Resident cognition
- Dental Services not easily accessible
- Resident refusals



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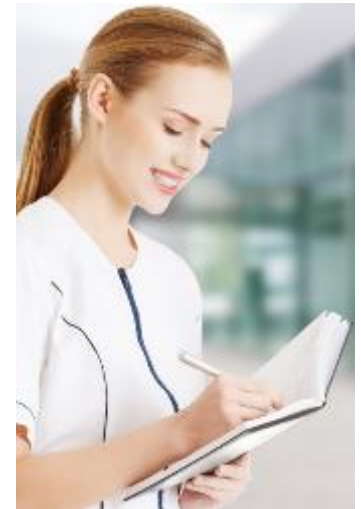
Monitor

- All caregivers will need to monitor resident for:
 - Complaints of pain, ill-fitting dentures, etc.
 - Observe dentures for integrity (cracks, chips or abnormalities)
 - Evaluate resident oral status with cares
 - Monitor resident handling of dentures



CONCLUSION

- It is essential to ensure that residents with dentures receive quality care and services consistent with the regulations
- Facilities may also be responsible to replace or repair dentures when indicated by facility policy
- Facilities will need to ensure prompt dental services, referrals and assistance with transportation to dental services



Questions?



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REFERENCES

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State Operations Manual Appendix PP – Guidance to Surveyors for Long-Term Care Facilities, 06/10/16:

https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/som107ap_pp_guidelines_ltcf.pdf

CMS Memo Ref: S&C 17-07-NH: Advance Copy – Revisions to State Operations Manual (SOM), Appendix PP- Revised Regulations and Tags, 11/09/16:

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American Dental Association:

<http://www.ada.org>



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