

Limiting Pathogen Transmission by Dental Personnel in the Clinic Procedure

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**Department: Dental**



**PURPOSE:**

To limit the spread of pathogen transmission, dental personnel are to limit their movement within the clinical area while wearing the appropriate PPE.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. When the clinical staff call a patient back into the clinic, they must have donned the appropriate PPE according to HealthLinc protocol.
	* All PPE should be donned regardless what the appointment type.
2. Hand hygiene should be performed prior to donning examination gloves when you reach the operatory.
3. After preparing the patient for the procedure remove gloves, perform hand hygiene, and let Dentist know you are ready.
	* Do not enter the non-clinical area with PPE.
	* If you have any questions for the PSRs, either ask before you get the patient or ask the Dentist to obtain the information from the PSR.
4. Dentists puts on PPE and enters the dental operatory.
5. Dentist performs hand hygiene and puts on examination gloves prior to performing the procedure.
6. When the Dentist leaves the room, they should remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.
	* If not seeing another patient they must doff the PPE prior to returning to non-clinical area
	* If seeing another patient, the dentist may proceed to another room and repeat step 5.
7. Upon completing the procedure remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.
8. All paperwork should be completed in the non-clinical areas.
	* Any printed documentation should be sent to the non-clinical area where the patient can receive it.
9. Escort the patient to the front desk to collect any paperwork (referrals, treatment plans, radiographs. etc.) and inform them that one of the PSRs will get them ready for their next appointment.
10. Perform hand hygiene and put on examination gloves to sanitize the dental operatory.
11. If the clinical staff does not have another patient, they can now doff the PPE as prescribed in the HealthLinc PPE donning and doffing protocol.
* If calling another patient into the clinic continue from step 2.

**RELATED POLICIES:** [PPE Donning and Doffing Procedure-Dental](https://healthlincchc.policytech.com/docview/?docid=3164)

[Best Practices for Dental Hand Hygiene Procedure](https://healthlincchc.policytech.com/docview/?docid=1907)

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