



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

November 30, 2020

TO: Prisons Health Services Incident Commanders
Dental Services Employees

FROM: *Miller Ronna Cole*
Arminda Miller and Ronna Cole
Prisons Health Services Unified Command Incident Commanders

SUBJECT: PPE for staff escorting patients for dental procedures

Effective, November 30, 2020, officers who escort patients to the DOC dental clinics for procedures will don the same level of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) that the dentists treating the patient is wearing, if they are remaining in the dental operating area during the procedure. The PPE will be available at the dental clinic for the officer to don.

As an example, officers that bring patients from restricted housing or patients from the Special Offender Unit, typically stand in the room while the surgery or procedure is being performed, next to the dental chair. Those officers will don everything that the dentist & dental assistant are wearing during that procedure. When the procedure is completed, they can doff (remove) the PPE and dispose of it properly. Their exposure to aerosols is the same as the dental staff when remaining in the room while procedures are performed.

cc:
Dr. Joy McDaniel, Chief of Dentistry
Mike Obenland, Command A Prisons
Jeneva Cotton, Command B Prisons
Tomas Fithian, Command C Prisons
Kathy Reninger, Command A Health Services
Health Care Managers
Superintendents