

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



**Standard Operating Procedures**

**Policy Name:** Refusal of Dental Treatment

**Policy Number:** 507.05.09

**Effective Date:** 6/21/2021

**Page Number:** 1 of 2

**Authority:**  
Commissioner

**Originating Division:**  
Health Services Division  
(Dental Health)

**Access Listing:**  
Level I: All Access

**I. Introduction and Summary:**

Offenders will have the right to refuse dental treatment. This policy is applicable to all facilities that house Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) offenders to include private and county prisons.

**II. Authority:**

A. NCCHC Adult Standard: PE-06;

B. NCCHC Juvenile Standard: Y-37; and

C. ACA Standards: 5-ACI-6A-08 (ref. 4-4351, Mandatory), 5-ACI-6A-10 (ref. 4-4353, Mandatory), 5-ACI-6C-04 (ref. 4-4397, Mandatory), 5-ACI-6C-19 (ref. 4-4360), 4-ACRS-4C-19, and 4-ALDF-4D-15.

**III. Definitions:**

None.

**IV. Statement of Policy and Applicable Procedures:**

A. All offenders have the right to refuse treatment that has been recommended. While an offender does not have the right to dictate his/her own treatment, an expressed desire to decline treatment will be honored. Offenders who refuse dental treatment will be required to sign a Refusal of Treatment Against Medical Advice form (P-82-0002-01). This form will be placed in the dental section of the medical/dental chart and will become part of the dental record. An entry of "Patient refuses treatment - see Refusal of Treatment form" will be made on the Dental Progress Record, dated, and signed by the practitioner.

B. All forms associated with this SOP may be found on the GDC Intranet at Captiva/Human Resources Division/Health Services/02 Physical Health/Health Record Manual/P-82-0002-01 Refusal of Treatment Against Medical Advice. Completed dental records and files shall be maintained for ten (10) years.

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**V. Attachments:**

None.

**VI. Record Retention of Forms Relevant to this Policy:**

None.