

## Job Description

**Position:** Dental Hygienist  
Up to 1.0 FTE including benefits  
**Wage Range:** \$51.00-\$53.00

REACH Dental Clinic is committed to providing a comprehensive range of oral care services of the highest quality to all its patients. We strive to educate all our patients who receive treatment at our Clinic. Our goal is to deliver excellent service in a friendly and welcoming environment to each and every patient who comes through our doors.

REACH Dental Clinic has been a leader in the field of dentistry since 1969 and remains committed to social responsibility. We are a social enterprise and receive no government funding. Thus, we rely on fees and private financial donations to do the work we do.

### Position Summary

The dental hygienist provides preventative and hygiene services as an integral part of the overall treatment plan for a patient as discussed with the dentist to promote and maintain dental and oral health. Responsibilities include contributing to the overall running of the clinic, input into policy/protocol development and helping to maintain all clinic standards. The dental hygienist is accountable to the dental manager.

### Responsibilities

- Records and periodically updates patient's medical and dental health histories and alerts as needed.
- Performs periodontal examination and records measurements in periodontal chart and determines the state of periodontal health of each patient.
- Takes digital x-rays.
- Using assessment, plans appropriate periodontal treatment for each patient.
- Explains the recommended treatment to each patient, including time involved, expected outcomes, benefit and possible side effects – makes adjustments as required.
- Maintains communication with the dentist with regard to pertinent periodontal-clinical findings and to attain the best results for the patient.
- Provides clinical dental preventative services including: local anesthetic, polishing, topical fluoride application, pit and fissure sealant placement, root planning, scaling and individual oral hygiene instructions.
- Evaluates the success or failure of the treatment plan and makes adjustments as required, with consultation and agreement of the patient and attending dentist.
- Teaches and promotes healthy oral hygiene to patients.
- Adheres to infection control standards and universal precautions at all times.
- Keeps equipment and instruments in good repair and reports equipment problems to the dental manager.

- Creates proper documentation about interactions with patients to facilitate proper follow up among staff and always signs their name after any notes.
- Develops activities and programs for the community as needed.
- Supervises, teaches and coordinates the volunteers/students and new employees when required.
- Contributes to the overall smooth running of the dental clinic.

#### Contribution to team and centre activities

- Participates actively in staff meetings and board committees.
- Participates in the overall activities of the health centre, e.g. in service training, committees, special events and shared staff responsibilities.
- Communicates clearly, listens accurately, is open to feedback, handles conflict appropriately, and displays sensitivity to others.
- Collaborates well with others, promotes cooperation and teamwork.
- Participates in REACH's commitment to becoming discrimination free and an inclusive health centre and promotes a healthy lifestyle.
- Maintains the reputation and confidentiality of the Health Centre and its patients at all times.
- Adheres to all applicable REACH policies and procedures.

#### **Qualifications**

- Is licensed and holds current registration as a Dental Hygienist in British Columbia.
- Practice in accordance with the policies governing the practice of dental hygiene in British Columbia as set out by the College of Dental Hygienists of BC.
- Willing to take initiative and consult with other health care providers inside and outside of the REACH Centre to determine appropriate periodontal treatment
- An understanding of and critical analysis of the determinants of health and social factors, such as power dynamics that affect individual, organizational and community health.
- Excellent communication (oral and written) and interpersonal skills and the ability to multi task in a fast paced environment.
- Ability to work independently and collaborate effectively in a team environment.
- Experience working in a non profit or social services organization an asset.
- Ability to speak a second language is an asset.