



Guide for Dentistry Patients

My dentist and I, collaborating together for my safety

10 Suggestions for people who undergo *dental treatment*

1. My dentist and I, collaborating together for my s1. Verify that the dentist is registered and licensed to practice under the professional order of dentists.

Prior to undergoing a dental check-up or beginning treatment, make certain that the dentist is licensed to practice dentistry, authorized by a professional order.

2. Identify all dental professionals that collaborate with the dentist.

The dental office may have other dental professional figures, named dental auxiliary, whom collaborate with the dentist but, under no circumstances may substitute the dentist. To identify them, read their tag. The dental auxiliaries who collaborate with dentists are:

- Dental hygienist: these profiles may, under orders of the dentist, perform cleaning and inform the patient as to the correct oral hygiene and cavity prevention methods to adopt.
- Dental assistant: Aids the dentist, but may not perform any dental services in the oral cavity
- Dental technician: constructs, by prescription of the dentist, removable dentures, fixed restorative work such as crown and bridges, braces for teeth alignment, but the role of this auxiliary is limited and may not perform any kind of manouver in the oral cavity.

If these roles are not respected, payment of the dental fee is not obliged by the patient and one may report this unlawful practice to the competent authorities.

3. Inform dentist of any illnesses (past or present) and medication taken

Advise the dentist and bring all supporting documentation regarding: illnesses or disease suffered in the past or present, known allergies or intolerances, treatment undergone and medication taken in the past or presently taking.

4. Bring all documentation

If you have received or sought assistance from other dentists, bring with you where possible, all previous documentation including all diagnostic imaging.

5. Ask your dentist questions

Ask your dentist which treatments are necessary, which methods will be used, what are the possible alternatives and related costs.

6. Discuss with your dentists about materials to be used

With your dentist, agree upon the materials to be used for fillings, reconstructions and prosthesis. When deciding, take into consideration the health, functional and aesthetic aspects on the basis of your own needs and preferences. Report to your dentists, any intolerance to metals, resin and other substances.

7. Pay attention to cleaning processes

Make certain that the dentist, oral hygienist and assistant ALWAYS WEAR gloves and face masks. As well, check that disposable material is utilized during these processes (for example, glasses, serviettes, and saliva-evacuator). The protection barriers of instruments are to be changed (e.g. the clear film of the headrest, lamps and drills) and of utmost importance; that all instruments have been sterilized.

8. Hand washing

Always wash your hands and ask everyone, without being timid, to do the same.

9. Enquire about instructions to be followed at home

At the end of the session, ask your dentist: for a written summary regarding the treatment performed and/or about the prosthesis made; about information regarding successive check-ups, maintenance therapy and prevention methods to be carried out at home; and for an official receipt for the payment provided.

10. Pay close attention to instructions to be done at home

Follow the instructions given by your dentist and/or dental hygienist.