

Dental Quality Assurance Overview

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/ofhs/childandfamily/dental/manual/index.htm>

Process:

- Quality Assurance review is designed to help dentists in the Virginia Department of Health address the recommended standards in the Dental Health Program Guidelines developed by the Dental Health Program.
- The primary reviewer will be the quality assurance dentist designated by the Dental Health Program. Reviewers will request pertinent data for review, schedule a convenient time to meet with the dentist and observe clinic operations. Dentists will be provided with feedback onsite and a written summary of significant findings will be prepared for Health Directors. If significant program or clinical deficiencies are found, the Public Health Dentist will develop and implement plans for program modification. Follow up reviews may then be performed to provide additional feedback for the dentist and director.
- A standardized series of forms provide the framework for review and are available in advance for all staff. These will include an OSHA/Infection Control checklist, a Record Audit checklist and a Clinical Care checklist. Variations in local program focus may exist affecting clinical procedures performed. Every clinical procedure listed in the Clinical Care checklist may not be available for onsite review. In those instances, completed dentistry, x-rays and treatment documentation will suffice.