

**Health Director's Report  
January 10, 2019**

**Division/Program: Preventative Maintenance of Dental Equipment**

**(Accreditation Activity 30.6: The local health department shall ensure cleaning, disinfection and maintenance of clinical and laboratory equipment and service areas and shall document all cleanings, disinfections and maintenance.)**

**Program description:**

- The Dental Division has schedules in place for monthly, quarterly or annual maintenance of its equipment.

**Statement of goals:**

- To ensure the cleaning, disinfection and maintenance of clinical equipment and service areas.

**Issues**

- **Opportunities**
  - The Department has provided for calibration of some of the clinic equipment through Piedmont Biomedical, in dental this includes the ultrasonic unit and scales.
  - Dental initiated a Preventative Maintenance (PM) contract with Benco for dental carts, hand pieces, autoclaves, oil change and filter, and replacement of amalgam separator.
  - Dental initiated a contract with Lewis Systems for air compressor for annual PM.
  - Contract is in place for dental software and x-ray equipment with Henry Schein.
- **Challenges**
  - When some of the PM is performed (such as with the air compressor) the clinic has to be closed, often for the entire day.
  - There have been issues obtaining accurate quotes for software and x-ray support, as County budget preparation starts in December for the following Fiscal Year (July 1<sup>st</sup>).

**Implication(s)**

- **Outcomes**
  - All equipment PM is up-to-date as of January 2019.
  - During annual PM of air compressor, issues with one of the two pumps was diagnosed – and contract generated with Lewis Systems for replacement.
- **Service delivery**
  - Piedmont Biomedical calibrated dental equipment in November; Lewis Systems changed out one of the pumps in the Air Compressor in December
- **Staffing-** Division Director is contact with vendors and works with Dental Practice Administrator to schedule PM at most convenient time.
- **Revenue** – N/A. PM contracts totaled \$7,680 in FY'19.

**Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies**

- Dental carts and handpieces to receive next PM service in January 2019.
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**Division / Program: Pharmacy & Health Education / Safe Syringe Program**  
**(Accreditation Activity 10.1 -The local health department shall develop, implement, and evaluate population-based health promotion/disease prevention programs and materials for the general public.)**

**Program description**

- On April 2, 2018, the DCoDPH Pharmacy launched the Safe Syringe Program based on the guidance and program requirements from the NC Division of Public Health.

**Statement of goals**

- To offer new needles, syringes, and injection supplies to reduce the transmission of HIV and Hepatitis C in the community.
- To offer free HIV and Hepatitis C testing and follow-up care.
- To offer education, treatment information, and referrals to community members.
- To provide a safe method of disposal for used needles and syringes.

**Issues**

- **Opportunities**
  - Reduce the transmission of HIV and Hepatitis C by offering new needles, syringes, and injection supplies.
  - Reduce the risk of bacterial infections (i.e. endocarditis) that occur when injection supplies are reused.
  - Connect participants with community resources including treatment options, health care, and housing assistance.
  - The following items are provided in the Safe Syringe Kit:
    - 10 sterile 1.0mL syringes with fixed needles
    - Alcohol swabs
    - Tourniquet
    - Condoms
    - Sharps Container
    - Additional injection supplies
    - Participant ID card
    - Printed material for harm reduction and ancillary services
  - Fentanyl testing strips and Naloxone kits are also offered with each SSP Kit.
- **Challenges**
  - Ensure that used needles and syringes are properly discarded in a puncture proof container. Sharps containers are included with SSP Kits and participants are encouraged to use of them and return the container to the DCoDPH Pharmacy.
  - Ensure that used needles and syringes are not deposited in the medication drop box in the HHS lobby. There is a sign on the box asking that needles and syringes be brought to the pharmacy or laboratory for safe disposal.

**Implications**

- **Outcomes**
  - The following statistics have been collected for November 2018:
    - Unique individuals: 2
    - Total contacts: 3
    - Syringes dispensed: 100
    - Syringes returned: 40

- Sharps containers dispensed: 2
- Fentanyl strips dispensed: 4
- Naloxone kits distributed (with SSP): 2
- Naloxone kits distributed (non-SSP): 22
- Naloxone reversals reported: 0
- Year-to-date statistics, FY18-19:
  - Unique individuals: 18
  - Total contacts: 31
  - Syringes dispensed: 790
  - Syringes returned: ~1885
  - Sharps containers dispensed: 51
  - Fentanyl strips dispensed: 43
  - Naloxone kits distributed (with SSP): 15
  - Naloxone kits distributed (non-SSP): 112
  - Naloxone reversals reported: 1
- **Service delivery**
  - Planning and implementation was completed by the Opioid Response Committee with guidance and support from the NC Division of Public Health, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch.
- **Staffing**
  - Pharmacy, Health Education, and Bull City United team members have received training from the NC Division of Public Health and the NC Harm Reduction Coalition regarding harm reduction strategies and Safe Syringe Program practices.

**Next Steps / Mitigation Strategies:**

- Statistics from the Safe Syringe Program will be monitored and reported to the Board of Health monthly.
- The Opioid Response Committee will continue to work with the NC Division of Public Health to improve our program and develop strategies to further our goals.