




Department: Dental

Policy Number: HHS-5139-D

Attachments: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Title: Removable Prosthetics Policy

Date: 5/2013 Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by:  Date: 9/26/13

**Purpose:** Removable prosthetics are very expensive both in terms of dollars and clinical time. It is therefore necessary to insure that all removable prosthodontic services provided in the Ne Ia Shing Dental Clinic are allocated in a manner that is consistent with both public health principles and levels of care guidelines.

**Policy Statement:**

1. All routine removable prosthodontic services fall within level V of the IHS levels of care. In compliance with the public health principle of providing emergency, preventive, and routine restorative procedures before more complex rehabilitative services, all patients receiving prosthetics must first receive all level I, II, and III services before prosthetic services are offered. In other words, level I, II, and III services must be treatment planned ahead of level IV, V and VI services.
2. Patient's treatment planned for prosthetics must prove that they can maintain an adequate level of oral hygiene to insure the long term success of the prosthesis. This requirement is waived in the case of full dentures.
3. If clinic scheduling should become overly backlogged, with scheduling extending significantly more than 6 - 8 weeks in advance, prosthetic services as well as other level IV, V, and VI services cannot be provided routinely. Patients will be placed on a removable prosthodontic waiting list and will be scheduled as time permits according to their place on the waiting list. Patients who have had multiple teeth extracted by the Ne Ia Shing Dental Clinic dentist's, and are in the process of healing will not be placed on a waiting list and will be scheduled for prosthodontics once healing is complete.
4. Lab Fees: As funding permits and according to this policy, the Ne Ia Shing Dental Department budget will cover the cost for the following removable prosthesis: full dentures, cast metal partial dentures, treatment partials, and splints for Mille Lacs Band members with insurance. Non Mille Lacs Band members living in the CHSDA will **pay their own fees**, which must be in hand before the study models are taken.
5. New dentures/RPD's can be made every 5 years; splints every 3 years according to the following clinical indications for the remake of dentures:
  - Over-closed vertical dimension from years of denture wear.
  - Teeth or denture badly worn
  - Poor retention due to ridge loss