DENTAL CLINIC FAQ

1. **Are there any requirements to work in the Cité Soleil dental clinic?** *All dentists and clinical staff must bring a copy of their current medical license. Non-dental team members can serve in many roles, but anyone providing dental care must work within their scope of practice. All team members must wear a name tag including professional title.*

2. **How do we communicate with our patients?** *Translators will be assigned to assist you. They will help with patient flow, translate the diagnosis of the problem, and help put the patient at ease while you give anesthesia, remove a tooth or do a filling. Please use the sun, moon and star labels on all Rx as most of our patients are illiterate.*

3. **What type of dental problems are seen in the clinic?** *The most common problems are tooth pain, tooth decay, gum (periodontal) disease, mouth sores, infection and tooth erosion. Please remember that common problems may require different treatment in Haiti. "Dental Mission Manual for portable, short-term dental trips", is a comprehensive, practical guide for dental mission trips. All proceeds from the sale of the manual go directly to the Christian Dental Society to support dental mission work around the world. Available at Amazon.com*

4. **What equipment and supplies are available in the clinic? Are drugs supplied?** *The clinic is equipped with basic dental equipment located on the second floor of the clinic. We recommend dentists bring two of their own operative set ups, to include composite instruments and any special instruments they like to use. Dental teams are responsible for bringing the supplies and forms needed for the mission week. Clean water is available in each dental exam room. Drugs are purchased on your behalf ($125 per dentist). Please note that all medications must be dispensed in the dental clinic, the MICECC staff cannot fill prescriptions for dental patients.(See Dental Guidelines for a complete list of supplies and equipment available).*

5. **What if we have questions or need help at the clinic?** *A "Lead" translator is assigned to assist every team and to serve as liaison between HOM/MICECC staff and your team.*

6. **How is patient flow managed?** *Patient tickets (12-14 patients per provider per day) are distributed by MICECC staff. After the clinic fee is paid, patients are directed to the dental clinic waiting area. The translator will help direct patients to the exam rooms. A detailed plan for managing patient flow is included on the website in the Dental Guidelines.*

7. **How much time is allotted for each patient?** *In Haiti, although there are many patients waiting to be seen, focus on treating the chief complaint - removing a bad tooth or doing a filling - and not the whole mouth. You will find most patients present with several dental problems and everyone needs and wants a cleaning, but that may not possible if you are trying to do the most good for the greatest number. It is helpful to have your translator explain your capabilities, so you do not disappoint patients and have negative feelings from those who might have expected treatment and did not get it. If possible, patients can come back another day for other concerns*

8. **How is follow up care managed**? *Unfortunately there are few resources for patients outside of the volunteer mission teams. Use the RX/RTC (Return to Clinic) form to have the patient to return for follow up care during your week. If additional dental work is needed and is not urgent, ask the MICECC medical staff as to when the next dental team is scheduled. There is dental care available for urgent needs in Petionville, Haiti but cost is prohibitive for most patients.*

9. **What happens if we run out of drugs or supplies?** *Be flexible! Although additional medications can be borrowed from MICECC or purchased locally, we do not have a reliable source of dental supplies in Haiti.*

Go to www.HaitiOM.org and select Volunteer-Mission Trips to access the complete Dental Mission Guidelines, Resources & Forms