



## School of Dentistry **GENERAL CLINICAL DRESS GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS**

The dress code has been set up to promote professionalism among the members of the Dental School and to convey this to our patients in the clinic setting. Patients and family members undergoing the stress of dental visits need to feel confident in those caring for them. Everyone needs to be safe from exposure to infections and allergens.

These rules apply to all students while in the treatment areas for the School of Dentistry. They are effective during clinic hours and/or when patients are present in the clinics or reception areas. Access to the clinic administrator offices is permitted while dressed down. Access to computer terminals, phones, and charts is acceptable during the lunch time.

Students should abide by the clinic dress code during classes held in the D-1 Simulation Clinic. All clinic course directors as well as those directing classes in the D-1 lab should mention the dress code in their course syllabus and/ or list the link to it.

### **Identification**

- University issued name badges are required when in the clinics.

### **Clothing**

- Appropriate (Personal Protective Equipment) PPE must be worn for procedures required by OSHA/WISHA guidelines, which are stated in the SOD 'Exposure Control Plan'. Once exposed to potentially infectious material, PPE is not to be worn outside the treatment area. White clinic coats are not considered appropriate if exposure to blood-borne pathogens is anticipated. PPE is required for all surgical procedures or where saliva splatter is expected.
- A neat, clean professional appearance while engaged in patient care is required. Such a professional appearance communicates an image of quality work and respect for the patient's well being. Clothing must be clean, safe and in good repair.
- Discretion and modesty should prevail in the choice of clothing.
- Examples of acceptable attire for women are dress shirts, blouses, skirts (professional length), dress pants, dresses, and clean closed-toe shoes.
- Examples of acceptable attire for men are dress shirts, polo shirts, dress pants, slacks and clean closed-toe shoes.
- Scrub tops and bottoms are acceptable when worn as a set. UWMC scrubs are not acceptable.

- Shoes must be cleaned, well-maintained and appropriate (no work shoes/boots, sandals, or open-toe shoes). Athletic shoes are acceptable, as long as they are clean and in good condition (no tears).
- The following items are NOT acceptable attire:
  - see through fabrics
  - halter tops, tank tops, or midriff length shirts
  - shorts
  - T-shirts or shirts with writing and/or designs/images (unless worn under an acceptable shirt or scrub)
  - Denim jeans of any color
  - Cargo pants
  - Clothing with holes in the material.
  - Baggy, loose, or low hanging apparel
  - UWMC or affiliated hospital scrubs (Plain or SoD labeled scrubs are allowed when worn as a set)
  - Hats (except for surgical caps when applicable)

### **Personal Hygiene**

- Students must come to clinic well-groomed and clean.
- Hairstyle must not interfere with patient or staff safety. Long hair (below shoulder length) should be contained or tied back so that it does not interfere.
- Mustaches, beards, and sideburns should be clean, neat, and well-trimmed, so facial hair can be contained within a surgical mask.
- Fingernails are to be clean and well manicured.
- Perfumes or colognes are not permitted. (People can be highly allergic to these chemicals and an allergic response may be precipitated.)
- Jewelry cannot interfere with patient care. Finger rings and wrist watches need to be removed, because they may generate holes in gloves and interfere with protection from potentially infectious material (saliva, blood).
- Facial piercings or body tattoos must be removed or covered when treating patients. Earrings are acceptable.

### **Student Violations** (continued on next page)

### **Student Violations**

Students, clinical faculty from any department, the clinic manager, and staff can report dress code offenses. Continued violations will be handled by the clinical department director(s) and the Associate Dean of Clinical Services, and may result in limited access to the clinics.

Consequences of not complying will be as follows:

- . First offense will result in immediate dismissal from the clinic. If treating a patient, care must be completed and the offense will be reported to the applicable clinical director for further disciplinary action.
- . Subsequent offenses will be recorded by the clinic director who, at their discretion, may impose reduction of grade, restriction to the clinic, or loss of other privileges.