

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**SUBJECT:** DENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS**POLICY NO.** 240

PURPOSE:: To establish the general principles guiding the Department's dental health programs.

POLICY:: The Department shall conduct active programs to raise and maintain the oral health status of residents of this County.

Services should be comprehensive, emphasizing preventive measures, and shall be available to persons of all ages. The Department's services shall range from public education and information to direct service.

1. Information is available to all residents.
2. Dental screening and referral services shall be available to populations at risk.
3. Direct dental care shall be available to County residents for whom no other appropriate services exist.

The Department's oral health program, both as to community input regarding program content, and Department outreach in the form of community dental programs, shall include participation of the community.

The Department shall participate in training oral health personnel. Such training assists the Department in provision of service as an important contribution to the community.

Consistent with efforts to function as an integral part of the health care system, the Department's oral health program shall seek to develop new biomedical information in the field of dentistry, and to improve methods of delivering dental health care.

GUIDE:: Where fiscal constraints necessitate priorities in comprehensive dental care, such comprehensive care for children should receive priority over comprehensive services for adults. This priority shall apply only to comprehensive services and shall not affect other services provided to adults and children.

AUTHORITY:: California Welfare & Institutions Code
California Health & Safety Code

EFFECTIVE DATE: Nov 24, 1975

SUPERCEDES:

APPROVED: Signature on File
