



AUSTRALIAN
DENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION
ADVANCING AUSTRALIA'S ORAL HEALTH

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FAQs for Volunteers

What are some of the ways I can volunteer?

Dental Rescue Day – a Practice allocates a full or half day to volunteer their time and services to provide pro bono treatment to a number of patients on a single day.

Adopt a Patient - volunteer dentists are paired with one patient in need of dental care and the Practice will 'adopt' the patient over a few appointments to complete a course of pro bono treatment.

As an Individual – there may be opportunities for individual volunteers to assist the Foundation. Please contact us for more information.

When are appointments scheduled?

Appointments are scheduled at a convenient date and time for the volunteer dentist and Practice.

How many hours must I work?

Generally, Practices see patients over a half day or a full day. If you would like to make other arrangements, please discuss with your State Coordinator.

How many patients will I see?

This will depend on how many patients are available on the day, and how many appointments the Practice has free. Most Practices allow each patient 45-60 minutes.

Who selects the patients?

The patients are referred by case workers at local charities and they are assessed by the State Coordinator on the basis of their dental needs.

How much treatment should I do for each patient?

Do as much as you can in the time allowed. You may not have time to provide all treatment required so ask the patient what is their most pressing problem.

Am I obliged to do ongoing treatment for the patients?

There is no obligation however, if you choose to provide ongoing treatment, this can be arranged with your State Coordinator.

What type of treatments should I do?

Consultation, oral exam, scale and clean, restoration, extractions, fissure sealants. You are not obliged to provide complex dentistry such as dentures, crowns, veneers etc. however should you choose to, the ADHF has the support of Southern Cross Dental and other dental laboratories.

What about record keeping?

The ADHF uses Praktika, a web based appointment book for all record keeping.

What about medical histories?

Each patient is required to complete a detailed Medical History Form which will be scanned into Praktika. We will notify you when you are able to access Praktika and check Medical History forms. This will be done prior to the appointment to ensure enough time for any follow up.

Do I pay the staff?

Most staff choose to work on a charitable basis.

What about the dental materials?

Please provide your own materials. The ADHF also has the support of Henry Schein Halas, SDI and Dentavision who donate materials for our volunteers. This can be arranged with your State Coordinator.

