



Policy Name <b>ORAL CARE &amp; BATHING FREQUENCY</b>		Policy Number: <b>0196</b>
Approved By: <b>Executive Team</b>		Effective Date: <b>October 30, 2016</b>
Next Date for Review: <b>October, 2019</b>		Date Revised:
Classification: Delivery of Care to Residents and Family		Page No: <b>Page 1 of 2</b>

**PURPOSE:**

The Salvation Army Agapé Hospice is committed to the provision of quality oral care and personal hygiene. The purpose of this document is to establish the minimum standards of acceptable frequency for oral care and personal hygiene, as established by Alberta Health. Agapé Hospice strives to provide for the individual needs of its Residents. This results in the provision of care at a much higher frequency.

**APPLICABILITY:**

Registered Nurses (RN), Resident Assistants (RA), Student nurses

**DEFINITIONS:**

Bathing: Refers to any of the following: Tub bath, Shower, Full body sponge and bed baths

Basic Oral Care: Brushing teeth and offering mouth rinse for Residents who are alert and able to sit up.

**POLICY:**

Oral Care:

1. Staff will provide Residents with the opportunity for basic oral care assistance twice a day at a minimum, and more frequently when required or requested.
2. Method of oral care for Residents who require alternative techniques will be documented in the Resident's care plan. Examples of alternative methods and suggested frequency can be found in Appendix A.
3. Oral care preferences and level of assistance required will be documented on the Resident's care plan.
4. RAs will document the frequency of oral care assistance offered, provided or refused on the Resident Care Flow Sheet. If any oral care was refused, the reason will also be documented in the Resident's health record.

Bathing Frequency:

1. Residents will be provided with a minimum of two bathing opportunities a week.
2. Resident's preferred method and frequency of bathing will be documented on the Resident's care plan.
3. RAs will document the method and frequency of bathing offered, performed, or refused on the Resident Care Flow Sheet. If bathing was refused, the reason will also be documented in the Resident's health record.



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**REQUIRED FORMS & EQUIPMENT:**

- Resident's Care Plan
- Resident Care Flow Sheet

**REFERENCE:**

Alberta Health. (2016). Continuing Care Health Service Standards: Information Guide.