

Scheduling Coordinator

Having a scheduling coordinator in a dental office can provide several benefits, contributing to the overall efficiency and success of the practice. Some of the key advantages include:

1. Improved Patient Experience

Clear communication and organization in scheduling contribute to a positive patient experience.

2. Optimized Appointment Workflow

- A scheduling coordinator helps manage the appointment calendar, avoiding overbooking or gaps in the schedule.
- Optimized scheduling reduces downtime for dental professionals and maximizes the use of available resources.

3. Enhanced Staff Productivity

- Dental practitioners can focus on providing quality care without the distraction of managing appointments and scheduling logistics.
- Staff can work more efficiently when the schedule is well-organized, leading to increased productivity.

4. Minimized No-Shows and Cancellations

- Proactive scheduling coordinators can implement reminder systems to reduce the likelihood of patients forgetting or missing appointments.
- The coordinator can also manage a cancellation list to fill any openings promptly, minimizing lost revenue.

5. Effective Time Management

The scheduling coordinator can help prioritize appointments based on the urgency of cases and the time required for different procedures.

Efficient time management ensures that the dental office operates smoothly and appointments are adequately spaced.

6. Increased Revenue and Practice Growth

- An organized schedule and reduced downtime contribute to a seamless patient flow, ultimately leading to higher revenue.
- A scheduling coordinator can help identify opportunities for practice growth by strategically planning appointments and accommodating new patients.

7. Streamlined Communication

- The coordinator serves as a central point of contact for appointment-related communication, streamlining interactions with patients and other staff members.
- Clear communication ensures that everyone is on the same page regarding the schedule and any changes.

8. Adaptability to Changes

A scheduling coordinator can quickly adapt to unexpected changes, such as emergencies or last-minute cancellations, to minimize disruptions in the schedule.

9. Patient Retention

- A positive and organized experience with scheduling can contribute to patient loyalty and retention.
- Patients are more likely to return to a practice where they feel their time is valued, and appointments are handled efficiently.

In summary, a scheduling coordinator plays a crucial role in creating a well-organized, efficient, and patient-friendly environment in a dental office, leading to improved overall performance and success.

Role of a Hygiene Scheduling Coordinator

- Manage and maintain hygiene schedules for all locations in alignment with practice goals
- Fill openings in a timely manner: utilizing an ASAP/VIP list
- Follow up with patients that need to be rescheduled

- Maintain fewer than [X#] of open hygiene hours on a weekly basis for each location
- Consistently pull and work 'due' and 'overdue hygiene' reports
- Submit and follow up with hygiene dental claims
- [when applicable] Present Hygiene treatment plans
- Attend and contribute to morning huddles: Identifying areas of opportunity in the Hygiene schedule

Consider incentivizing this position based on the productivity of the hygiene schedules. KPI: number of open hygiene hours = less than x per week.

Ideas to staff the position include:

- Dedicated team member to manage Hygiene schedules only
- Dedicated team member to manage both Doctor and Hygiene schedules
- Combine Hygiene Scheduling Coordinator with another position in the office
 - Billing + Hygiene Scheduling Coordinator
 - Insurance Specialist + Hygiene Scheduling Coordinator
 - Part-time Treatment Coordinator + Part-time Hyg Coord
 - Stay at home mom looking to work from home a few days/week while her kids are at school. Former Hygienists and anyone in customer service are great for this role