

## Building the Dentist/Patient Relationship

*The core of the dentist-patient relationship is a trusting relationship. This information sheet provides some of the key obligations and roles that the dentist and the patient can expect of each other.*

### Dentists

To provide you with professional care, I will

- Stay current in my field of practice
- Provide a safe office and clinical environment for your oral health care
- Always put your health interests first
- Tell you what I see and think and explain all of your options
- Tell you up front what the expected costs of treatment are and the expected outcomes
- Listen to your questions and answer them
- Provide only those dental services that are consistent with your oral health care needs and for which you have given full, free and informed consent
- Maintain and safeguard your medical/dental records and charts and provide you a copy upon request
- Consult and work collaboratively with other health care providers to look after your oral health care needs
- Be available during and after treatment to provide ongoing and/or emergency care and to answer any questions you have
- Respect the trust and confidentiality central to our doctor/patient relationship
- Respect your right to seek a second opinion



### Patients

What you can do to optimize your oral health

- Give me an accurate, truthful, and complete medical and dental history
- Tell me your concerns
- Show up for your appointments (tell me in advance if you need to reschedule)
- Allow me the opportunity to help you
- Be an active participant in maintaining your oral health care
- Raise any questions or concerns about your care
- Work with me to ensure I always maintain your trust and confidence
- Treat me and my staff with courtesy and respect

An information sheet provides a factual summary or outline of instructions, information and/or processes that are relevant to registrants.

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February 2015