Title: Standards for Professional Attire

Purpose: To guide faculty, staff, residents and students regarding dress standards requirement at the SoDM.

Procedure:

The School of Dental Medicine (SoDM) establishes the following dress standards in the spirit of creating a professional atmosphere, which is dignified, conducive to patient care and meets applicable state and federal regulations. It is the responsibility of all students, residents, faculty and staff to maintain these standards of dress, neatness of appearance and cleanliness.

The minimum standards for acceptable attire are:

- For males: A collared shirt (a small insignia is acceptable), tucked in, khaki or similar dress slacks, belt, socks and dress shoes. Athletic shoes may only be worn with scrubs.
- For women: A professional blouse, sweater or top and dress slacks or skirt, or dress, and dress shoes. Skirt lengths should be no more than three inches above the knee. Athletic shoes may only be worn with scrubs.
- For all residents and students: Official SoDM scrubs, in the approved color for each specific class, are required in the Bench Lab, Simulation Lab, and all clinical areas. Clean, conservative athletic shoes and socks may only be worn with scrubs. A scrub top, worn with dress slacks and dress shoes and socks, is an acceptable alternative.
- While residency program directors may make exceptions regarding resident attire, all clinical staff in CSLCs must wear scrubs.
- A clearly displayed ECU identification badge should be worn at all times.

Personal grooming must include cleanliness of hair, body, breath and fingernails. Beards and mustaches must be clean, neatly trimmed and well groomed.

In patient treatment areas, including the Simulation Lab and Bench Lab, additional standards include:

- Disposable over-gowns (in patient treatment areas only)
- No open toed shoes
- Minimal jewelry, that does not interfere with clinical asepsis
- Long hair pulled back and clasped/anchored in a ponytail type style
- Name tags, displaying clinical credentials for clinical staff, faculty, residents and students
- Name tags for administrative staff who have patient contact

The Clinic Handbook provides additional guidelines specific to the clinical areas, Bench Lab and Simulation Lab.

Unacceptable attire includes:
• Denim pants of any color, cargo pants, shorts, sweat pants, leggings, overalls
• Flip flops
• Non-religious or non-surgical head coverings
• Tube tops, halter tops, midriff-baring tops, bare shoulder tops, miniskirts, immodest attire or attire that reveals undergarments
• T-shirts, sweatshirts, with the exception of sweatshirts worn in the learning halls for student comfort
• Sunglasses, unless medically required

Potentially offensive tattoos must be covered. Tongue and lip pierced rings or studs are prohibited.

When questions arise regarding interpretation of these standards, final arbitration rests with the administration.

Originally approved May 23, 2011.
Revisions approved by DEC August 2, 2017