

To have a clear indication on dental office requirements for first aid kits, Lance Plunkett, General Counsel of NYSDA offered the following explanation.

There is no specific requirement for a first aid kit in a dental office under either OSHA or New York regulations. OSHA regulations at 29 CFR §1910.151(b) do require that adequate first aid supplies be available, but there is no specific definition of what those supplies must be. OSHA gives some guidance by citing to the generic first aid kit described in the American National Standards Institute but has not adopted that standard as a mandatory requirement. [Link to ANSI](#)

### **ANSI Z308.1-1998 – Minimum requirements for workplace first aid kits**

#### **Basic kit – minimum contents**

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum quantity</u></b>
Absorbent compress, 32 sq. in. (81.3 sq. cm.) with no side smaller than 4 in. (10 cm)	1
Adhesive bandages, 1 in. x 3 in. (2.5 cm x 7.5 cm)	16
Adhesive tape, 5 yd. (457.2 cm) total	1
Antiseptic, 0.5g (0.14 fl oz.) applications	10
Burn treatment, 0.5 g (0.14 fl. oz.) applications	6
Medical exam gloves	2 pair
Sterile pads, 3 in. x 3 in. (7.5 x 7.5 cm)	4
Triangular bandage, 40 in. x 40 in. x 56 in. (101 cm x 101 cm x 142 cm)	1

#### **Appendix A to § 1910.151—First aid kits (Non-Mandatory)**

First aid supplies are required to be readily available under paragraph § 1910.151(b). An example of the minimal contents of a generic first aid kit is described in American National Standard (ANSI) Z308.1-1998 “Minimum Requirements for Workplace First-aid Kits.” The contents of the kit listed in the ANSI standard should be adequate for small worksites.

When larger operations or multiple operations are being conducted at the same location, employers should determine the need for additional first aid kits at the worksite, additional types of first aid equipment and supplies and additional quantities and types of supplies and equipment in the first aid kits.

In a similar fashion, employers who have unique or changing first-aid needs in their workplace may need to enhance their first-aid kits. The employer can use the OSHA 200 log, OSHA 101's or other reports to identify these unique problems. Consultation from the local fire/rescue department, appropriate medical professional, or local emergency room may be helpful to employers in these circumstances. By assessing the specific needs of their workplace, employers can ensure that reasonably anticipated supplies are available.

Employers should assess the specific needs of their worksite periodically and augment the first aid kit appropriately.

If it is reasonably anticipated that employees will be exposed to blood or other potentially infectious materials while using first aid supplies, employers are required to provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) in compliance with the provisions of the Occupational Exposure to Blood borne Pathogens standard, § 1910.1030(d)(3) ( 56 FR 64175 ). This standard lists appropriate PPE for this type of exposure, such as gloves, gowns, face shields, masks, and eye protection.