



# Dental Spanish Packet

For Dental Volunteers & Healthcare Professionals



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# Introduction

Many brigade volunteers ask if speaking fluent Spanish is a requirement to participate in brigades. While it is not a requirement, it is a useful tool that will enhance your brigade experience. The following guide will cover basic Spanish used and heard in the Dental Station.

Review this packet in the days leading up to your brigade, go over it in a chapter meeting or print it out and bring it with you on your brigade. Remember, this is meant to be a guide to simple Spanish and it is in no way representative of the range of Spanish you may hear on the brigade.

Enjoy!



# Common Terms

Below is a chart of commonly used terms. Study them to become familiar with basic dental anatomy:

English	Spanish
Cheek	<i>Cachete/Mejilla</i>
Gums/gingival	<i>Encias/Gingiva</i>
Lip	<i>Labio</i>
Roof of the mouth	<i>Cielo de la boca</i>
Tongue	<i>Lengua</i>
Face	<i>Cara</i>
Head	<i>Cabeza</i>
Mouth	<i>Boca</i>
Chin	<i>Barbilla</i>
Tooth	<i>Diente</i>
Molar	<i>Muela</i>

In addition to the terms above, there are certain useful phrases you will hear, particularly when assisting the Dental Healthcare Professionals. The following pages will detail these phrases.

# Common Phrases

When speaking to community members, you will want to give them simple instructions that are easy to understand. Remember that for many, going to see a dentist can be a little nerve-wracking, so be sure to speak calmly. Below are some examples:

English	Spanish
What is your name?	<i>¿Cómo se llama?</i>
How old are you?	<i>¿Cuántos años tiene?</i>
Please sit in the chair.	<i>Por favor sientese en la silla.</i>

In addition to the questions above, you will want to briefly ask about their health history. Below are some examples:

English	Spanish
Before we can treat you we need to have some information about your health. I will ask you a few questions about your health.	<i>Antes de tratarle necesitamos información acerca de su salud. Voy a preguntarle algunas preguntas.</i>
Do you have high blood pressure?	<i>¿Tiene presión alta?</i>
Do you have diabetes?	<i>¿Tiene diabetes?</i>
Do you have any heart problems?	<i>¿Tiene algunas enfermedades del corazón?</i>
Are you allergic to any medication?	<i>¿Le hace daño algún medicamento?</i>
Are you pregnant?	<i>¿Está embarazada?</i>
Is there anything else related to your health that you would like to tell us?	<i>¿Hay algo más relacionado a su salud que desea decirnos?</i>

# Common Phrases

Once you ask about health history, you can move on to more Dental specific questions. Keep in mind that Dental Professionals will be the ones giving the commands but knowing these phrases will allow you to assist the professional. Here are some examples:

English	Spanish
What is the problem with your teeth today?	<i>¿En este momento, cual es la problema con sus dientes?</i>
I am going to look at your teeth.	<i>Voy a mirar sus dientes.</i>
Open your mouth.	<i>Abra la boca.</i>
Close your mouth.	<i>Cierre la boca.</i>
Spit.	<i>Escupa.</i>
Which tooth hurts?	<i>¿Cuál diente le duele?</i>
Does it hurt you at night?	<i>¿Le duele en las noches?</i>
How long have you been in pain?	<i>¿Por cuánto tiempo ha tenido dolor?</i>
Are you taking any medication for the pain?	<i>¿Está tomando algún medicamento para el dolor?</i>
How many teeth would you like taken out?	<i>¿Cuántos dientes se quiere sacar?</i>
This tooth cannot be saved.	<i>Este diente no se puede salvar.</i>

# Common Phrases

In continuation with more Dental specific phrases:

English	Spanish
I am going to extract your tooth so you can feel better.	<i>Voy a sacar su diente para que se sienta mejor.</i>
I'm going to numb it so you won't feel anything.	<i>Voy a adormecerle para que no se sienta.</i>
Raise your hand if you want me to stop.	<i>Levante su mano si quiere que pare.</i>
Does your lip feel different?	<i>¿Se siente diferente su labio?</i>
Does your tongue feel different?	<i>¿Se siente diferente su lengua?</i>
We need to place some stitches to close the cut.	<i>Necesitamos poner algunos puntos para cerrar la cortadura.</i>
I want to give you medication for the infection.	<i>Quiero darle medicamentos para la infección.</i>
You have (caries/a cavity) in this tooth.	<i>Usted tiene (caries/una cavidad) en este diente.</i>
You need to have the decay removed and a filling put in place.	<i>Usted necesita que le quiten la descomposición y que le coloquen un tapón necesita.</i>
Do you have any questions?	<i>¿Tiene algunas preguntas?</i>
Remember to brush and floss all your teeth every day.	<i>Recuerde cepillar sus dientes y usar hilo dental cada día.</i>
I'm going to brush your teeth.	<i>Le voy a cepillar los dientes.</i>

# Closing Words

Once community members are done at the station, be sure to kindly dismiss them with something such as the following:

**Thank you for coming today!**  
*Gracias por venir hoy!*

A simple phrase such as this goes a long way and reminds our community members how important they are to the success of medical brigades.

Finally:

Felicidades! Congratulations. You have reached the end of the Spanish Packet for the Dental portion of Medical/Dental Brigades. We hope you found the guide useful and look forward to seeing you in country soon.

Nos vemos en la brigada!