

## Infection Prevention and Control February 20, 2018

Presented by  
Linda McLarty  
Director of Education at Germiphene

We formulate. We manufacture. We test. We export.  
We deliver.  
We understand. We have answers. We are Canadian.  
We are 65. We know infection control.



## What You Need

CDHO's website, RCDSO's website, advisors, PHO's website (Grand Rounds, Training)

Checklist: IPAC Core Elements in Dental Practice Settings - Public Health Ontario 2017

Checklist: Reprocessing in Dental Practice Settings - Public Health Ontario 2017

Infection Prevention & Control for Clinical Office Setting 2015, its references, RCDSO Guidelines Feb 2010



## Risk Definitions

- **Legislated** - must be compliant with relevant Act or regulation (i.e. OHSA)
- **High Risk** - immediate health hazard exists. May lead to transmission of infection or risk of illness or injury. Practices that cannot be corrected **immediately must be stopped until health hazard eliminated.** An order may be warranted/issued.



## Risk Definitions

- **Medium Risk** - practices must be corrected. Timelines for compliance or agreement on alternate process to be determined during inspection.
- **Inform & Educate** - provide information on best practices & mandatory legislated practice requirements. **May include just in time education.**



## Everyone's Price of Admission... IPAC is everyone's job



- Responsibility
- Accountability
- Knowledge Application
- Continuing Competency



## Written Policies & Protocols

- IPAC policies & procedures based on most current best practices (**Med**)
- Routine Practices
  - hand hygiene
  - risk assessment
  - PPE
  - environmental cleaning
  - waste management
  - education
  - healthy workplace & occupational health policies



## Written Policies & Protocols (I/E)

- reviewed & updated on regular basis
- staff have access & know how to use
- **IPAC & OHSA followed by all staff**
- water & water use during boil water advisory
- maintenance of dental unit water quality



## Education

- regular education (education & continuing education) for consistent implementation of IPAC (**Leg, I/E**)
- record of attendance at staff education & training (**Leg, I/E**)



## Water Quality

- suck back can contaminate lines (Saliva ejectors are not straws), **improper or inadequate compliance**
- 2011
  - death due to Legionella
- 2014-2015
  - Mycobacterium abscessus - Georgia, USA
- 2016
  - M. abscessus, Anaheim, California



## Education - Water Quality

- water quality
- biofilm formation
- water treatment methods
- appropriate maintenance protocols for water delivery system (MED)



## Boil Water Advisory

- policy exists regarding water and water use within the dental setting during a Boil-Water Advisory
- refer to local health unit



## CDC/OSAP

- reschedule for immunocompromised patients
- warn patients, may wish to reschedule
- explain situation & procedures you are taking
- no one consume water, ice, drinks that has not been disinfected
- hand hygiene - ABHR



## CDC/OSAP

- don't use tap water to dilute cleaning/disinfecting solutions
  - i.e. ultrasonic cleaning machine



## CDC - connected to public water supply

- turn off water supply to dental unit, ultrasonic scaler & other dental equipment
- flow disinfected water out of bulb syringe when using high-speed handpiece
- drinking water - commercially bottled
- hand hygiene - ABHR



## Cancellation of Advisory

- flush, clean & sanitize dental units & other equipment as per MIFU
- large buildings - speak with facility engineer re draining reservoir
- flush pipes & faucets - at least 5 minutes
- flush drinking fountains - at least 5 minutes



## Cancellation of Advisory

- run water softeners through regeneration cycle
- drain & refill hot water heaters set below 113 F
- change all point-of-entry and point-of-use water filters including those associated with equipment that uses water



## Independent Water Supply

- acceptable to use by following MIFU's
- do not use tap water for water bottles, ultrasonic cleaning machine, ultrasonic scalers
- maintain, monitor, shock



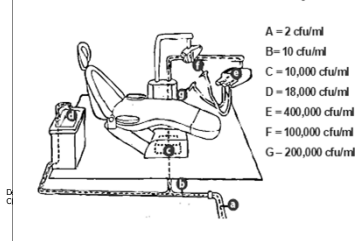
## Biofilm growth (Med)

- tubing
  - hardeners/additives
- narrow bore
- low water pressure
- low flow rates
- stagnation



## Dental Unit Water Quality

### Dental Unit Water Quality



A = 2 cfu/ml  
B = 10 cfu/ml  
C = 10,000 cfu/ml  
D = 18,000 cfu/ml  
E = 400,000 cfu/ml  
F = 100,000 cfu/ml  
G = 200,000 cfu/ml

Microbial counts in newly installed dental waterlines can reach as high as **200 000** colony forming units per milliliter within 5 days.



## Water Quality (MED)

- no waterline heaters
- purge 2-3 min no attachment start of day
- purge 20-30 seconds between patients
- handpiece removed, clean & disinfect clinical contact surfaces
- attach sterilized handpiece for next patient



## Water Quality (Med)

- sterile water/sterile saline
  - open surgical sites, bone cut during invasive surgical procedures
  - appropriate devices to deliver sterile irrigation solution



## Closed or other water delivery systems

- Manufacturer's instructions related to dental units and equipment are followed for daily and weekly maintenance
  - log sheet



### Waterline Maintenance Guide

The Maintain | Monitor | Shock approach is as effective as it is practical for ongoing self-contained waterline care. See the other side for detailed instructions.



MAINTAIN



MONITOR



SHOCK  
#1 - 200-400 ppm

afdec  
rehabilitation solutions



## Water Treatment

- non-toxic
  - patient, equipment
- easy to use to ensure compliance
- residual activity
- environmentally friendly
- ideally combined maintenance & shock
- economical



## 2.6 Checklist - CORE

- Policies & procedures are in place for maintaining dental unit water quality
- Dentists & hygienist consult manufacturer to determine best method for maintaining acceptable water quality & **recommended frequency of monitoring.**



## What is the quality of water you are using during patient treatment?

Outside testing  
In office testing



## Safe drinking water - **0 E. coli**

- E. coli is used as an indicator of the microbiological safety of drinking water; if detected, enteric pathogens may also be present. E. coli monitoring should be used, in conjunction with other indicators, as part of a multi-barrier approach to producing drinking water of an acceptable quality.



## Monitor

- in-house testing
  - E One
    - results within 1 hour or 30 minutes @ 37 C
    - >500 cfu's/ml
      - bacteria, fungi, biofilm, legionella, mycobacterium abscesses
  - E Line
    - results within 24 hours @ 37 C
    - > 200 cfu's/ml total bacteria, fungi, E.coli, faecal coliform



## Water lines, anti-retraction valves & other accessories

- Manufacturer's instructions
  - testing
  - maintenance
  - preventative maintenance
- antiretraction valves & other devices
  - may require periodic maintenance
  - Saliva ejectors are not straws.....



## Handpieces, Intraoral Devices (Med)

- 20 to 30 seconds after patient use
- multi-use syringes
  - sealants, etching, bonding & filling cleaned & disinfected with low level disinfectant between patients
- syringe tip single use device
  - discarded in sharps container after each patient



## Reprocessing Instruments

- Critical - **greatest risk**
  - clean & sterilize (sterilizer/autoclave)
- Semi-critical - **reduced risk**
  - clean & sterilize (sterilizer/autoclave)
  - heat intolerant instruments
    - available in heat tolerant or single use
    - cold sterile (high level disinfectants)
- Reprocessed items are stored in a clean, dry location - minimize contamination & damage (**High**)



## High Level Disinfectants Flash Sterilization

**Not suitable for dental office setting...**

**Unpackaged sterilization - emergency use only**



## Written Policies & Procedures (I/E)

- if item cannot be reprocessed
  - not purchased or single use only
- all aspects of reprocessing based on current recognized standards/recommendations
  - reviewed regularly and/or as new information becomes available



## Written Policies & Procedures (I/E)

- Recall of reprocessed equipment
  - notification of principle dentist & RDH
  - assessment of patient risk
  - determination if additional notification of patients, other facilities and/or regulatory bodies (i.e. public health, regulatory college) is required
- Scheduled preventative maintenance of reprocessing equipment with written documentation as proof



## Written Policies & Procedures (I/E)

- Quality monitoring and documentation of reprocessing process (i.e. biological, chemical indicators)
- single-use devices
- removal of faulty items until repaired or replaced



## Education & Training (**High**)

- reprocessing staff
  - formal education & training - theoretical & practice components (PIDAC courses)
- device specific reprocessing
  - simple items (scalor, etc.)
    - review MIFU
  - complex instruments (handpiece, laser)
    - manufacturer's rep, training videos, based on MIFU
- trained upon hire, at least annually and whenever new equipment or processes are introduced (**Med**)



## Education & Training - High

- single-use items including needles are not reprocessed
- prophylaxis angles, high-volume suction, air/water syringe tips available in single-use or reusable form



## Physical Space

- items cleaned in designated area physically separate from direct care areas & from where **clean, disinfected or sterile items** are handled or stored (Med)
- if physical barriers are not feasible, IPAC principles related to separation of clean & dirty are followed



## Physical Space

- one-way work flow from dirty to clean to prevent cross-contamination (High)
- sink of sufficient size & depth for cleaning items (Med)
- sufficient cleanable, non-porous counter space to handle volume of work (Med)



## Physical Space

- dedicated hand hygiene sink and/or ABHR in reprocessing area
  - do not use hand washing sink for equipment cleaning
  - double sinks??
- puncture resistant sharps container at point of use and/or sharps are transported to reprocessing area **in covered container (plastic tray with hard plastic cover that locks or closed & locked cassette) Leg. High**

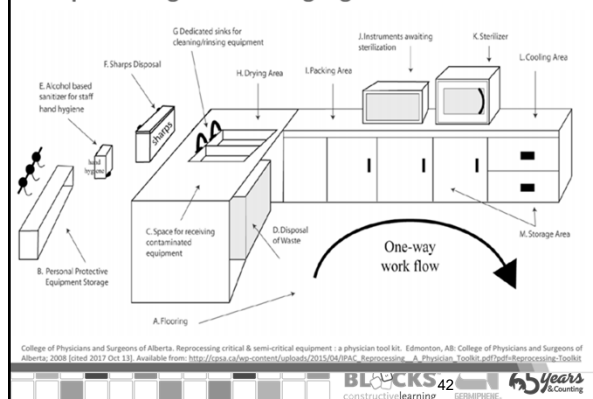


## Physical Space

- plumbed or self-contained eyewash station within a 10 second walk of reprocessing area (**Leg. High**)
- regular schedule for environmental cleaning of reprocessing area
  - written procedures
  - clearly defined responsibilities (**High**)



## Reprocessing Checklist Highlights – Section 4



## PPE

- available & readily accessible in appropriate sizes (**Leg. High**)
- PPE
  - gloves, gowns, masks, eye protection worn when cleaning likely to result in splashes or sprays of blood or other body fluids (**High**)



## What's wrong in this picture?



## Cleaning

- Contaminated items kept separate from clean items (**High**) - **one way movement from dirty to clean**
- Gross soil (blood, sputum)
  - removed at chairside or
  - in reprocessing area to prevent bioburden from drying on items (**High**)



## Cleaning

- If cleaning can't be done immediately, keep items moist (**Med**)
  - in closed covered transport container
  - using product specifically intended following MIFU
    - rinse prior to placement in ultrasonic washer and/or instrument washer



## Manual Cleaning

- enzymatic solution (**Med**)
- brushes (**Med**)
  - inspected frequently
  - changed when dirty
  - sterilize or dispose of at end of day
  - discarded if worn or damaged



## Mechanical Cleaning

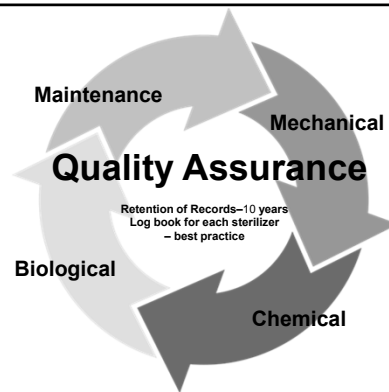
- Ultrasonic washer, washer/disinfector
  - tested for efficacy at least weekly or as per MIFU (**High**)
  - receive documented preventative maintenance (I/E)
- Detergent or enzymatic cleaning solution discarded as per MIFU (**Med**)
- Rinse instruments after ultrasonic cleaning





## Dry, Inspect, Assemble

- instruments dried with lint free towel
- hinged instruments
  - open & unlocked
- sterilization pouches
  - instruments do not touch
  - circulation of steam to reach all surfaces



## Sterilization (High)

- Critical, semi-critical instruments
  - disposable or sterilized using approved sterilization process
- Packaged as per MIFU (packaging & instrument)
- labelled **prior** to sterilization with
  - date processed
  - sterilizer used
  - cycle or load #
  - initials

*if instruments not visible, package contents should be labelled*



## PHO Sterilization Log

Load Details		Pouch Contents	Sterilizer Model: _____	Sterilizer Serial Number: _____	Operator Initials	Quality Indicators*	Operator Initials
Date: _____						Temperature: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Time: _____						Chemical indicator Change: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Load #: _____						Biological Indicator: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	
						Pressure: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	



## Process Challenge Device

- challenge to sterilization process equal to or greater than challenge posed by most difficult item routinely processed
  - most # of instruments, instruments with lumens (ie handpieces, ultrasonic tips)
- place in **fully loaded chamber**
- refer to MIFU re placement (ie coldest area of chamber as determined by manufacturer)



## What does a PCD contain for spore testing?

- sterilization pouch either with large # of instruments or instruments with lumens
- BI placed in most challenging area of pouch for steam to penetrate
- external chemical indicator
- class 5 chemical indicator
- must be labelled PCD



## Class B Sterilizers

- Bowie Dick test to be done each day sterilizer is used in an empty chamber
  - evaluates efficacy of air removal & steam penetration



## Sterilizer without printer/USB

- \*\*\*\*\*retrofit or purchase new sterilizer with printer/USB\*\*\*\*\***
- policy in place for recording physical parameters
- physical parameters (time, temp, pressure) recorded for each load
- class 1 outside of each pack



## Sterilizer without printer/USB

- package contents can be seen - class 5 internal chemical indicator in each pouch
- package contents can't be seen - PCD minus biological indicator containing class 5 or 6 may be used to justify releasing load



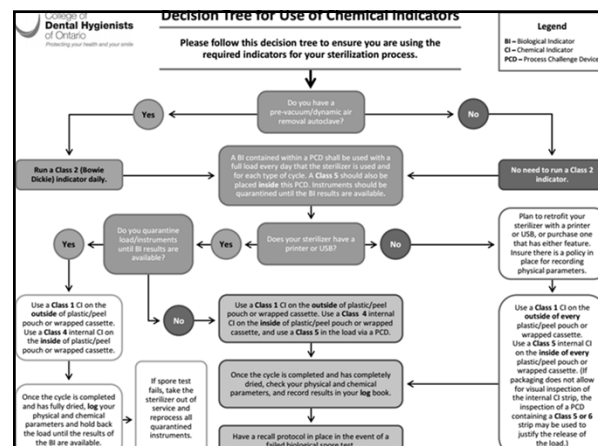
## Sterilizer with printer/USB

- mechanical indicators (time, temp, pressure) recorded for each load
- if instruments quarantined**
  - class 1 external chemical indicator on each pouch/pack
  - class 4 internal chemical indicator on each pouch/pack at a minimum



## Sterilizer with printer/USB

- if instruments not quarantined**
  - labelled PCD in each load with class 5 chemical indicator (Decision Tree) PLUS
  - class 1 external, class 4 internal on all pouches/packages (Decision Tree)
- OR
- as some offices are doing, a class 5 chemical indicator in each pouch



## Sterilization (High)

- sterilizer loaded as per MIFU
- mechanical indicators (display, printout or USB)
  - checked, **verified** & initialled at end of each cycle
- Biological indicator
  - inside PCD with class 5 each day sterilizer is used for each type of cycle
  - control (MIFU)



## Why a control vial?

- verifies
  - spores are viable
  - media can promote growth of test spores
  - incubator is operating at proper temperature



## BI or CI Failure - 85% due to human error

- sterilizer failure
  - not enough water in reservoir
  - incorrect time at temperature
- incorrect packaging (too dense)
- incorrect loading
- too large a load
- incorrect placement of items - paper up or paper down



## Sterilization - High

- instrument packs not used until CI's checked
- Instrument packs allowed to dry in sterilizer before removing or handling



## Sterilization (High)

- failed CI, package reprocessed
- sterile packages
  - inspected for integrity
  - reprocessed if compromised



## Storage (High)

- sterile items stored in sterile packaging until time of use
- packaged, sterilized instruments stored securely in manner that keeps them clean, dry & prevents contamination
- reprocessed packages differentiated from non-reprocessed (colour coding)
- process for alerts & recalls from manufacturer or government agencies (Med)



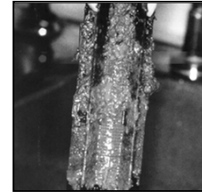
## Record Keeping (High)

- written log of test results by sterilizer (best practice)
- chemical indicators
  - sterilizer #
  - load #
  - date of sterilization
- mechanical indicators
  - chart/printout, load contents, person responsible for sterilization cycle



## Suction Lines (Med)

- purge between patients
  - water or appropriate cleaning solution
- flush with enzymatic cleaner or appropriate cleaning solution as per MIFU



Thank you....  
Germiphene is here to help!!!!

Linda McLarty,  
Director of Education  
Germiphene

For more information please email the ODHA at  
[info@odha.on.ca](mailto:info@odha.on.ca) or call 1-800-315-6342

