

Dental IPC Bites

March 2022

Sterilized and Spotless

Sterilization and disinfection is one of the most critical processes in a dental practice. Use this monthly tip to help improve your practice and keep your patients safe!

Every package sterilized should be labeled with a minimum of the date and sterilizer identifier and load #.

This can be important in identifying and recalling instruments out of circulation if a sterilizer failure occurs. Find more information about this at: <https://bit.ly/368CU5W>

The Mouthy IP

The Mouthy IP is a podcast that is focused on dental infection best practice where we answer questions submitted by our listeners. Find out more on Twitter at @Mouthy_IP or on our website at: <https://bit.ly/ICAPDental> Submit your questions to sstream@nebraskamed.com



Upcoming Events

[Ne ICAP Acute/ Outpatient Webinar](#) | 3/23/22
[NETEC OSHA Respiratory Webinar](#) | 4/06/22
[NDA/ NDAA Infection Control Course](#) | 4/08/22
[Ne ICAP Acute/ Outpatient Webinar](#) | 4/13/22

Public Guidance Causes Confusion in Healthcare Facilities

The newest COVID-19 guidance released for the public on reduced quarantine time and community transmission rates for source control has caused some confusion in healthcare facilities. Healthcare facilities remain a higher risk environment than public settings. The [CDC's Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare](#) still recommend following source control masking and quarantine guidance as you would for healthcare staff for your visitors and patients coming into the facility. You can find community transmission rates for your area on the [CDC's COVID Data Tracker](#) map.

OSHA Announces Increased Enforcement in Healthcare Facilities

[The Department of Labor announced](#) that they will increase enforcement visits from March 9, 2022 to June 9, 2022 in healthcare facilities to ensure employees are being properly protected during the COVID-19 pandemic. They will be focusing on the standards of: recording and reporting occupational injuries and illnesses, general requirements – personal protective equipment, respiratory protection, access to employee medical records and the Healthcare ETS standards. Consider a comprehensive review of OSHA's [Protecting Workers: Guidance on Mitigating and Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in the Workplace](#) and [Dentistry Workers and Employers](#) documents as a review of COVID-19 expectations in dental facilities.

Nebraska ICAP Offers Free Infection Control Support

Nebraska ICAP is a non-regulatory, infection control support program that is funded through the Nebraska DHHS HAI/AR program by a CDC Biopreparedness Grant. The team is made up of Infectious Disease Physicians and Infection Preventionists that are available to perform facility reviews, conduct trainings and provide answers to any of your questions related to COVID-19 or infection control. You can find more information at the [Nebraska ICAP Dental Webpage](#) or call us at 402.552.2881 to be connected to an expert or learn more about how we can support your facility.



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