

Infection Control Procedures for Dental Clinics

1-General Clinic Practices

- * Gowns must be worn exclusively within the clinical area. Wearing gowns in hallways, elevators, or beyond the faculty gates is strictly prohibited.
- * Report any needlestick or sharps injury immediately to the clinical instructor.
- * Stay updated on immunizations (Hepatitis B, etc.) as required for clinical practice.

2-Before Treatment

- * Perform hand hygiene (handwashing and 1% glycerine + CHX + 70% alcohol) before gloving.
- * Don PPE in order: gown→mask→face shield→gloves.
- * Review patient's medical history for infectious disease risk factors. You may need to wear double gloves or double masks in case an infectious disease is present.
- * Prepare and disinfect the operatory: cover surfaces likely to be touched (light handles, chair switches, air/water syringe) with wrapping.
- * Ensure sterile instrument packs are within expiry date and packaging is intact.

3-During Treatment

- * Use rubber dam isolation whenever possible to reduce aerosol and splatter.
- * Use high-volume suction to minimize aerosol spread.
- * Change gloves between patients and if torn or punctured.
- * Avoid touching non-sterile surfaces (phone, computer, drawer handles) with contaminated gloves.
- * Handle sharps carefully; use a one-handed scoop technique for recapping needles.

4-After Treatment

- * Remove PPE in the correct sequence (gloves → face shield → gown → mask) and perform hand hygiene immediately after.
- * Dispose of sharps immediately in safety boxes.
- * Discard single-use items in appropriate waste bags (general (black) vs. biohazard (red)).
- * Remove and discard surface barriers, X-ray film covers, and alginate impression remnants in the biohazard waste receiver.
- Instrument Reprocessing
 1. Pre-clean/rinse instruments to remove gross debris with brush.
 2. Avoid over packing the sterilization packets and write your name on the side of the packet to avoid puncturing its center with your pen.
 3. Store sterilized instruments in a clean, dry area, and check packaging integrity before use.

5-Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinics

- * Extracted teeth are to be placed in a waste receiver on the bracket table then they are discarded.