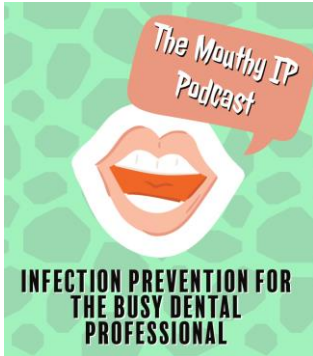




Infection Control Assessment
and Promotion Program

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THE MOUTHY IP PODCAST

EPISODE 15:

DENTAL BURS

***ALL INFORMATION IS
ACCURATE AS OF THE
DATE THIS EPISODE
WAS RECORDED**

Summary:

The team explores the complex world of burs and how they may or may not be considered single use items.

Key Takeaways:

1. Burs contain small, rough surfaces that can be hard to clean before sterilization.
2. Many burs are not approved by the FDA for reprocessing (sterilization), so are single use.
3. It is critical to follow the manufacturer's instructions for use to determine the appropriate way to clean and sterilize a bur if its approved for reprocessing.
4. If you don't have the manufacturer's instructions for use, you should assume the bur is a single use item.
5. CDC guidance states, "Because of the physical construction of certain devices (e.g., burs, endodontic files, and broaches) cleaning can be difficult. In addition, deterioration can occur on the cutting surfaces of some carbide/diamond burs and endodontic files during processing and after repeated processing cycles, leading to potential breakage during patient treatment. These factors, coupled with the knowledge that burs and endodontic instruments exhibit signs of wear during normal use, might make it practical to consider them as single-use devices."

Resource List:

1. CDC Resources:
 - a. Guidelines for Infection Control and Prevention in Dental Healthcare Settings: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr5217.pdf>
2. Effectiveness of sterilization for diamond burs in dentistry: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4129327/>
3. Survey on single use of dental burs: <https://www.dentaleconomics.com/science-tech/article/14189551/singleuse-of-dental-burs-and-diamonds-results-of-a-survey-among-dental-economics-readers>
4. A Guide to Burs: Dental Sky: <https://blog.dentalsky.com/a-guide-to-burs/>