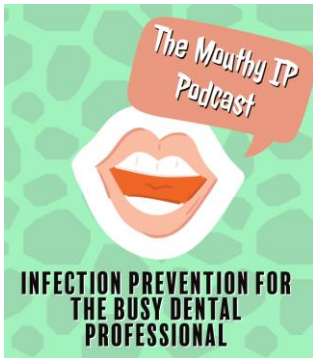




Infection Control Assessment  
and Promotion Program

Contact Nebraska ICAP at  
[nebraskaicap@nebraskamed.com](mailto:nebraskaicap@nebraskamed.com) or at  
402.552.2881



## THE MOUTHY IP PODCAST

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### EPISODE 5:

### THE LAUNDRY TALK

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

### **Summary:**

The ICAP team received a call asking about the specifics of uniforms and how to take care of laundry in a dental facility.

### **Key Takeaways:**

1. Scrubs/ uniforms should be considered contaminated after use due to the high risk of splash, splatter and aerosol in dentistry and laundered in the facility or by a laundry service.
2. Street clothes should be worn into the office and staff should change into their scrubs/ uniforms before patient treatment.
3. Staff should change out of their scrubs/ uniforms before leaving the office for the day. Contaminated scrubs /uniforms should never be worn home.
4. Staff should have dedicated shoes for patient treatment that are liquid resistant and wipeable so they can be disinfected regularly.
5. Contaminated laundry should be handled in a way so it does not produce aerosols of the potential contaminants on it.
6. If laundry is contracted out to a laundry service, it should be bagged according to the service regulations and marked as biohazard.

### **Resource List:**

1. OSHA Healthcare Laundry Requirements
  - a. <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/hospital/laundry/laundry.html>
2. CDC Laundry Guidelines
  - a. <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/environmental/background/laundry.html>