

Dental IPC Bites

March 2023

Sterilized and Spotless

Does your practice place implants? If so, there are some special sterilization guidelines that should be followed with the implants and equipment used to place these implants.

Because implants are placed into bone, that is considered sterile tissue, the CDC has increased sterilization guidance for them.

The CDC recommends “a biologic indicator (i.e., spore test) is used at least weekly and with every load containing implantable items.” This means that a passed biological indicator should be documented before releasing the implant and instruments for placement.

Find out more at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/pdf/safe-care2.pdf>

The Mouthy IP

The Mouthy IP is a podcast that is focused on dental infection best practice. 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](#) | 3/22/23

[OSAP Webinar: Beyond Basics: Instrument Reprocessing, Standards and Best Practices in the Dental Office](#) | 3/24/23

[Ne ICAP Acute/ Outpatient Webinar](#) | 4/12/23

Do You Track Post-Operative Infections?

Tracking post-operative infections can be an effective way to evaluate your processes and take action if an issue arises. In the medical realm, surgical site infections (SSIs) are documented and reviewed regularly to help inform teams about their processes. Often, they are investigated by an internal infection preventionist to find ways to prevent these infections from happening again.

Your practice can start tracking post-operative infections and any other kind of undesirable outcome to help identify products and processes that could be improved to reduce these undesirable outcomes. To begin, you can:

- Create a tracking spreadsheet that contains the following information: Patient name, date of procedure, procedure type, staff present, infection culture result, patient follow up, notes
- Create a custom code in your electronic health records that will give you the ability to pull the information from a report
- Discuss any identified post-operative infections/ undesired outcomes with staff to identify process improvements

March's Featured Infection Control Resource

This month's featured resource is Nebraska ICAP's experienced Infection Preventionists. These IPs are here to help you with infection control questions, on site assistance and a comprehensive review of your infection control program. They are up to date on the latest state requirements, CDC recommendations and best practices to help keep your practice in compliance. This is the best way to keep your staff and patients happy and healthy!

Nebraska ICAP Supports Dental Clinics with Infection Control

Nebraska ICAP is a free program that offers dental clinics many infection prevention and control (IPC) support services to build their IPC programs. Reach out to us to schedule support for your infection control needs.

- Proactive, non-regulatory infection control reviews for any office
- Staff education and infection control career advancement programs
- Infection control support via phone or email
- Infection control educational presentations and courses



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