

Dental IPC Bites

July 2023

Sterilized and Spotless: Load Placement

Paper up or paper down? We get this question all the time when it comes to loading sterilizers.

There are many different types of sterilizers used, and best practice is to check the manufacturer's IFUs for loading the chamber. For example, the Midmark tabletop sterilizers say the pouches should be loaded vertical (in a stand) or with the paper side down. The StatIM cassette chambered autoclave, says pouches should be loaded paper up.

This difference is because the steam enters the chamber from a different location and proper pouch placement allows for steam to contact all the instrument's surfaces.

If you need another resource on sterilization processes, check out our monthly featured resource of ANSI/AAMI ST79 Comprehensive Guide to Steam Sterilization and Sterility Assurance.

The Mouthy IP Podcast

You can find more information at: <https://bit.ly/ICAPDental>
Submit your questions to stream@nebraskamed.com



Upcoming Events

[Ne ICAP Acute/ Outpatient Webinar](#) | 08/09/23

[ADAA Webinar: Dental Burs](#) | 08/17/23

[Dental Infection Control Summit](#) | 09/15/23

*Registration for morning and afternoon sessions is separate.

CDC Be Antibiotics Aware: Free Printed Resources

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Be Antibiotics Aware (BAA) national educational effort seeks to optimize antibiotic prescribing and use, in order to improve patient safety and healthcare quality and combat antibiotic resistance. Nebraska ASAP is partnering with the CDC to send printed BAA materials to your dental office FREE of charge to distribute to your patients. If you are interested in receiving educational materials, please scan the QR code or fill out the survey at: <https://redcap.nebraskamed.com/surveys/?s=CLELJN3PEDFJ4ATA>



Dental Infection Control Summit Coming to Omaha

The Nebraska Infection Control Network (NICN), UNMC College of Dentistry and Nebraska ICAP are hosting the Dental Infection Control Summit on September 15, 2023 to provide infection control training to dental professionals in the area. Mark your calendars and bring your whole team! Registration is open on the [UNMC College of Dentistry Continuing Education website here](#).

July's Featured Infection Control Resource

July's featured resource is the ANSI/AAMI ST79: 2017 Comprehensive guide to steam sterilization and sterility assurance in health care facilities. This paid resource provides comprehensive guidance on sterilization processes, such as, "Paper-plastic pouches should stand on edge in relation to the cart or shelf, with the paper side of one pouch next to the plastic side of the next pouch. Holding racks or baskets specifically designed for paper-plastic pouches may be used." If you'd like to find out more about access to this resource, you can find it at <https://www.aami.org/standards/ansi-aami-st79>.

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.

- Initiative-taking, 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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