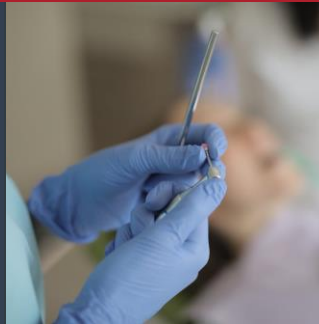


Sterilized and Spotless: Handpieces

Dental handpieces are a complex piece of equipment that facilities must have. They do, however, come with specific sterilization instructions. Often, these complex items must have a shorter cycle time and lower temperature to prevent damage to the handpiece.

The [CDC](#) says all handpieces should be removed from the air/ water lines and heat sterilized between each patient according to their instructions.

Ensuring the instructions for cleaning and sterilizing handpieces are being followed can keep your patients safe and your handpieces running smoothly.



Upcoming Events

[Ne ICAP Acute/ Outpatient Webinar](#) | 03/13/24

[OSAP: Infection Control Safety Protocols](#) | 02/28/24

[OSAP: We don't know; What we don't know!](#) | 03/20/24

[NEAETC HIV 101 for Oral Health Providers](#) | 03/20/24

Preventing Cross-contamination is as Easy as 1, 2, Barrier

Hard to clean surfaces in clinical care areas can harbor infectious pathogens. Using a barrier to cover these surfaces is an effective way to prevent cross contamination during clinical procedures.

The [CDC](#) recommends the following:

1. Barriers should be fluid resistant
2. Barriers should be changed between every patient
3. Barriers should be FDA Approved for use in a dental/ medical setting
4. After barrier removal, surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected

What can you barrier?	
Dental Chairs	A/W Syringes
Suction Hoses	Handpiece Hoses
Keyboard	Computer Mouse
Unit Controls	X-ray Tubehead
Curing Light	X-ray Buttons
X-ray Sensors	Material Syringes
Light Handles	Intraoral Cameras

February Featured Resource: Clean Hands Count Campaign

The Clean Hands Count campaign aims to:

- Improve healthcare provider adherence to CDC hand hygiene [recommendations](#)
- Address the myths and misperceptions about hand hygiene
- Empower patients to play a role in their care by asking or reminding healthcare providers to clean their hands



ICAP Newsworthy Notes

What's been going on at ICAP? We're so glad you asked!

- ICAP was excited to join other dental professionals at the OSAP Bootcamp in Atlanta, GA. This 4-day dental infection control conference covers all aspects of dental infection control. You still have time register for their on demand recordings [here](#).
- The ICAP team is proud to be providing education for the Nebraska Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) State Leadership Conference in March.
- Dental Resources that cover all infection control topics as well as information on where to listen to the podcast can be found on our website at: <https://icap.nebraskamed.com/facilities/dental/>



Contact us with your infection control questions, site visit requests or mentorship questions at 402.552.2881 or nebraskaicap@nebraskamed.com.