

Organization for Safety and Asepsis Procedures (OSAP)

The Organization for Safety and Asepsis Procedures (OSAP) is an international, non-profit-making dental organization that promotes safety and infection control. Their website is located at <http://www.osap.org>. Its information is supported by research and science and provides the dental practitioners with programmes, education, publications and tools to answer questions about infection control and safety. The website also addresses questions from companies, educators and patients. The web pages can be translated into several different languages including Russian, Chinese and Spanish using Babelfish.

The website has two sidebars for quick navigation to sites of interest. The right sidebar deals mostly with new news items. It also includes areas such as research abstracts and job openings. The left sidebar gives access to most of the sites sections. These include: *About OSAP*, *Training and Education*, *Infection Control Issues*, *Resources*, *Member Advantages*, *International*, *Patients and Donate*. The *About OSAP* section contains governance, publications, the foundation and how to donate to it, organizational and international alliances, awards and staff. It also features the site to contact OSAP.

The section on *Training and Education* contains the following areas: Training courses, including CDC guidelines, Symposia information, 24–7 education and an events calendar. The *Issues* section reveals numerous current safety and infection control concerns. Some of the current topics include: SARS, Anthrax, Dental Unit Waterlines, Hepatitis C, Needle and Sharps Safety, Bioterrorism, and Instrument Processing. It also offers a section on ‘What Issues Do You Want to See?’. This link gives the reader the opportunity to email the organization to suggest topics to be included in this section.

Under the section on *Resources*, we find the following areas: Publications, OSAP Q&A, Infection Control Guidelines, Inter-

national and the OSAP Store. The *Members Only* section provides those individuals paying a membership fee access to the following areas: a Log-in area, Member Benefits, OSAP Q&A, ‘Ask OSAP’, Infection Control & Safety ‘In the News’, Monthly News Summary, New Member Orientation, Bylaws, Board News and Corporate Member Resources.

The website section that is devoted to *Patients* provides a wealth of information to any individual seeking knowledge about items such as dental waterline contamination and travelling. Items such as seeking dental care while travelling and assessing the infection control practices of a dental office are just two of the topics discussed.

The *Donate* section is one which gives information about making charitable donations to the OSAP Foundation. The tax ID number as well as the address and all pertinent information on donation are contained here.

This website provides all dental practitioners, patients, programmes and organizations with the information and resources needed to carry out dental infection control procedures in a safe environment. The vast information contained in this website is easily accessible even to a novice internet explorer. The fact that it is translatable in several languages makes it a truly international endeavour to help standardize infection control and safety in dental offices throughout the world.

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