

Basic Guide to Infection Prevention and Control in Dentistry

Authored by Caroline L. Pankhurst, Wilson A. Coulter. John Wiley & Sons Ltd, The Atrium Southern Gate, Chichester, West Sussex, PO 19 8 SQ, UK. 186 pages, soft cover ISBN 978-1-4051-7662-0

Infection prevention in dentistry needs continuous attention. In the UK employers and their employees are responsible in law to ensure that any person on the premises, be they patients, visitors or contractors, is not placed at any avoidable risk. The infection control measures are directed towards reducing, to an acceptable level, the probability or possibility that an infection can be transmitted. How the prevention of cross-infection is managed and the risk of spread of infection in the dental operatory is controlled is the subject of this book.

The book contains 12 chapters and an index. At the end of each chapter you will find references and websites. Some chapters also have further reading suggestions. Each chapter is divided into topics.

The chapters discuss the following subjects: essentials of infection control, communicable diseases in the dental surgery, occupational health and immunisation, sharp safe working in the dental surgery, hand hygiene, personal protection for prevention of cross-infection, sterilisation and disinfection of dental instruments, dental Surgery design, disinfection and managing aerosols, dental unit waterlines, health care waste management, transport and postage of diagnostic specimens,

impressions and equipment for servicing and repair. The last chapter contains an appendix with tables like a control clinical pathway which commences with the start of the day, continues into preparation for patient treatment, during patient treatment, etc.

The book would be of interest to the whole dental team. It is easy to read and is a good source, if the dental office wants to focus on infection prevention on a regular basis. Are we still doing everything possible to keep contamination at an as low as reasonable possible level and who is responsible for what. The book can be used to make an infection control program for the operatory. It is useful for all student categories (dental, dental hygiene, dental therapy, dental nurses and assistants).

The content is up to date according to the European standards.

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