

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2015 2:41 p.m.
To: Consultations
Subject: Infection control submission

Good afternoon and thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.

Firstly I think the infection control protocol is in general a good, sensible and easy to follow document.

The only issues I wish to raise are that in terms of risk management would it be possible to suggest in the document that biological indicators be used more than just once a year at validation? In the unfortunate event that the biological indicator were to fail it is my understanding that every patient back until the last non fail would need to be recalled - a years worth of patients. This type of mass recall incident would be stressful for all the patients involved , most of whom would actually have nothing to worry about probably and damaging to the reputation of the profession as a whole. The cost of the test isn't that high and relative to the cost of running a dental surgery fortnightly or monthly tests are a cheap insurance and one of the quick checks that things are running as they should be in the sterilising room.

Secondly while I think the infection control document is great, its not so much use if people don't follow it (and the reality is many don't). It would be good motivation for some in the industry if there was the possibility that there could be a random unannounced infection control audit of their dental practice. As the body charged with upholding standards in dentistry generally , I think it would give the standards real meaning if there was the knowledge out there that compliance might actually be checked by a dental council appointed auditor.

Thank you for your time

Kind Regards

Mitten Mclean