



Shaping a healthier Warrington
Analysis Improvement Protection

INFECTION CONTROL NEWS FOR THE DENTAL TEAM

April 2017

Volume 3, Issue 1

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LOCAL ANAESTHETIC CARTRIDGES AND STORAGE

Local Anaesthetic and storing

How do you store your local anaesthetic cartridges? Do you keep them in the original packaging till point of use? Or do you remove from packaging and store in the drawers?

LA cartridges that are packaged in blister packs are manufactured in a sterile environment and up to the point of use are a 'sterile' product. Like with all dental sundries manufacturers' instructions should be sort in the first instance to ascertain how the LA should be stored. For example, away from sunlight and warm room temperatures. Some manufacturer's for example recommend 'adequate precautions are required to avoid prolonged contact between local anaesthetic solutions containing adrenaline (low pH) and metal surfaces (e.g. needles or metal parts of syringes), since dissolved metal ions, particularly copper ions, may cause severe local irritation (swelling, oedema) at the site of injection and accelerate the degradation of adrenaline.' Also that the solution must be used immediately after opening the cartridge. This means that LA syringes should not be loaded until point of use.

Another consideration is that guidance within the Code of Practice states 'Systems to manage and monitor the prevention and control of infection. These systems use risk assessments and consider the susceptibility of service users and any risks that their environment and other users may pose to them'. This includes local anaesthesia procedures.



St. Helens Council



SELF-AUDITS AND ACTION PLANS

Did you know: Study models should not be disposed of through clinical or domestic waste stream. In line with HTM 07 01 guidance study models contain Gypsum and if disposed of in normal landfill can pose a hazardous risk. Practices should have a contracted service for the disposal of study models.

Audits for infection control monitoring all aspects of standard precautions should be carried out every **6 months** (HTM 01 05).

Unless areas requiring immediate improvement it would be advised audit reviews are carried out sooner.

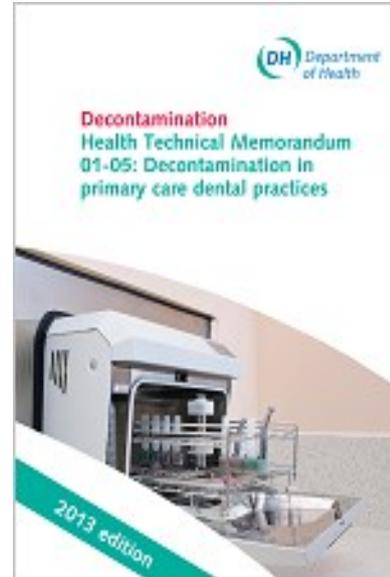
If using the HTM 01 05 audit tool then you will cover all the areas necessary to comply with Legislation and the HTM 01 05 guidance. **A copy of your self audit results including any action plans should be forwarded to Karen Jones either electronically or hard copy. Contact details at back of this newsletter.**

The electronic software which can be downloaded from a new website. Link is to the right of this article.

If you have difficulty accessing this website due to security issues then the advice is to complete a hard copy version instead. If you do not have this version available then please contact Karen Jones for a copy to be sent.

Remember if you complete in this way there will be no scorings or action plan generated. The action plan will need to be manually created. It is important that any areas not complying ; a manual action plan is be drawn up and any actions are dealt with accordingly.

Did you know That bacteria can live on uniforms for days unless washed daily.



Access to the audit tool go to :

<https://app.box.com/s/8cfwhj17p24f06clauf9bq02fqupg22r>

Please note: The IPS society no longer hosts access to the HTM 01 05 tool .



Access to Occupational Health Services at Aintree University Hospital, Liverpool

A limited FREE service in conjunction with NHS England is being provided for all dental practices for blood borne viruses advice, inoculation injuries and Hep B vaccinations . Other services regarding occupational health are not included. However, the occupational health service would provide for a charge. **A drop in clinic is available Mon– Fri 8.30am-9.00 am & 4.00-4.30pm.** Out of these times if urgent advice required you are advised to phone first. Non urgent enquiries it is advised to email in the first instance. **Contact details: Diane Lee Tel: 0151 529 6607. Address : Aintree Hospital, Lower Lane, Liverpool L9 7AL. Email: www.aintreeworkandwell-being.nhs.uk.**

ANNUAL INFECTION CONTROL STATEMENTS – ARE REQUIRED FROM APRIL 2017

All practices as part of their compliance with the Health & Social Care Act and as part of declaration to NHS England should produce an annual infection control statement which should provide a short review of the following:

- known infection transmission event and actions arising from this
- Audits undertaken and subsequent actions
- Risk assessments undertaken for prevention and control of infection
- Training received by staff regarding infection control
- Review and update of policies, procedures and guidance.

As well as a copy being made available at the practice; a copy should be sent to Karen Jones . An electronic version would be preferred as this can be forwarded to the appropriate agencies including NHS England as and when required.

PLEASE SUBMIT ANNUALLY TO WHEN YOUR LAST STATEMENT WAS DATED.

If anyone requires any further information please contact Karen Jones .

TB AWARENESS DAY MARCH 2017

World TB Day is held each year on March 24th and aims to build public awareness for action against tuberculosis, a disease which despite being curable, remains a destructive epidemic in much of the world.

This year, the 135th anniversary was commemorated of Dr Robert Koch's announcement in 1882 of his discovery of the TB bacillus, the cause of tuberculosis. His ground breaking research opened the way toward diagnosing and curing this disease.

World TB Day is an opportunity for people everywhere to join this fight by helping to educate others about TB and by urging governments to take action. We believe that together we can End TB once and for all: **Unite to End TB!**

Make a note in your diary for 24th March 2018.

Did you know: Over 10 million people develop TB each year. TB is the world's leading infectious killer. TB is an airborne disease that exists in every country . Everyone is vulnerable.

WATER QUALITY : FOR DUWLS ' AND AUTOCLAVES

Under the Health and Safety Act and associated regulations e.g. The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002 (as amended), a risk assessment must be carried out in order to identify favourable conditions for bacteria proliferation within the water systems. Water quality in dental premises is regulated under the 'Code of Practice: Legionnaires disease', 'The Control of Legionella Bacteria in Water Systems (L8)', 'HTM 01-05' (England & Northern Ireland) and 'HTM 04-01'. Distilled or reverse osmosis (RO) water must be used for dental unit water lines (DUWL's) and autoclaves. Tap water is to be avoided as this will introduce respiratory bacteria into the DUWL and it is not to be used in autoclaves. In line with guidance it is important to monitor the quality of the water that is used in patient treatment including water that is used for autoclaves.

Distilled water & storage

During distillation, water is boiled and evaporated away from its dissolved minerals. The vapour is then condensed, and the resulting water droplets are collected. Distilled water is an active absorber, and when it makes contact with air, it quickly absorbs carbon dioxide and becomes acidic. Because distilled water is acidic and demineralized, it will tend to pull contaminants out of whatever container you put it in. Commercial water bottles tend to wear down from repeated use, which can lead to bacterial growth in surface cracks inside the bottle. This risk is compounded if you fail to adequately wash the bottle between each use, using mild soap and warm water. But even with washing, these microscopic hiding places may still allow bacteria to linger. Consideration should be given to replacing frequently.

Autoclaves

Reservoir chambers should be filled, at least daily, using distilled or RO water. However, more frequent draining and refilling offers quality advantages in terms of the appearance and suitability of the finished instruments. At the end of the working day, the device should then be cleaned, dried, and left empty with the door kept open. Guidance from L8 advises that at-risk systems, particularly those used with the patient, be drained down at least at the end of each working day. Manufacturer's protocols for daily cleaning should always be applied.

DUWL'S

Dental unit water lines should be flushed for at least 2 minutes at the beginning and end of every day and after any significant period when they have not been used. In addition, water lines should be flushed for at least 20-30 seconds between each patient. This should be done without hand pieces attached. Always clean and disinfect DUWL's according to manufacturer's instructions. Aseptic technique should be followed when filling the reservoir bottles to minimise potential contamination with skin micro-organisms.

Infection Control Leads:

Have you received training for your role? Did you know we provide workplace based training for leads to undertake. The training and workbook have been devised from an accredited course we have previously delivered. Individuals completing the training will receive over 20 hrs verifiable CPD and accrue hours of non verifiable also.

The training involves completing seven units of work over a 6-7 month period which covers areas such as guidance we should be referring to in dentistry, decontamination, necessary protocols and policies are in place and that you are complying in all areas regarding infection control. If you are interested or would like further information please contact Karen Jones. Contact details are on the back page.

INFECTION CONTROL LEAD NURSE FORUM GROUP MEETINGS - DATES FOR 2016

Low House HCRC, Training Room, 2nd Floor, Crab Street, St Helens, WA10 2DJ

Thursday 15th June 2017— 6 -7.30 pm

Thursday 14th September 2017— 6 -7.30 pm

Thursday 7th December 2017— 6 -7.30 pm

Warrington Wolves Stadium, Warrington , WA2 7NE

Tuesday 20th June 2017- 6 -7.30 pm at Warrington Wolves, Room F27

Tuesday 19th September 2017— 6 -7.30 pm at Warrington Wolves, Room F27

Tuesday 12th December 2017- 6 -7.30 pm at Warrington Wolves,

You are welcome to attend either meeting as the agenda will be the same for both venues.

If you are interested in attending and have not been before please can you contact me in advance. Contact details on the back page.



Join us on Facebook

If you would like to join our dental forum group on Facebook please contact Karen (details on back page.)

3 BOROUGH'S INFECTION TEAM HAVE MOVED

Contact details :

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INFECTION CONTROL TRAINING

Would your practice like some infection control training?

If so please get in touch (see contact details above). I will come to your practice when suits you to deliver infection control training . It can be tailored to suit your training needs. It will also be verifiable CPD!



EMAIL COMMUNICATION WE NEED YOU!!!!

Have you notified us of your most up to date email address for your practice?

If not , please can you get in touch so we can ensure you receive all our communication

Are you thinking of refurbishing at your practice? Surgeries, general environment or installing a local decontamination unit (LDU) ? Then please get in touch and we can provide you with professional advice regarding infection control measures you will need to consider