



## CROSS INFECTION POLICY STATEMENT

Staff at Premier Dental Care takes all necessary precautions to safeguard against all blood borne infections. We follow strict guidelines from the department of health by complying with the HTM01-05 Document. The Health and Safety of our patients is of utmost importance. Disposable instruments are used where possible, and all other instruments are put through very strict sterilisation processes. Our cross infection processes are regularly checked, reviewed and audited to ensure our patients and staff are not posed to any risk.

### Arrangements for infection control, decontamination reducing risks

HTM01-05 guidelines are followed at Premier Dental Care.

Patient and staff medical histories are regularly updated.

Staff are fully trained and infection control procedures are monitored clinically and discussed in staff meetings.

Policies are reviewed and updated regularly. These are fully accessible to all staff members.

Effective hand hygiene procedures are followed.

Appropriate PPE is issued to and used by staff.

Disposable barriers are used to protect contact surfaces where appropriate.

Surface areas that are not barrier protected are cleaned and disinfected between patients.

New instruments are decontaminated according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Contaminated instruments are transferred to a separate sterilisation room in rigid leak proof labelled containers. Here, a zoned pathway is used to decontaminate the instruments by manual cleaning, visual inspection followed by the use of washer disinfectors and autoclave sterilisers.

Instruments are then packaged, dated and returned to the surgeries where they are stored until use. If storage exceeds 21 days the instruments are reprocessed.

All washer disinfectors and sterilisers are checked and validated daily and serviced annually.

Single use and disposable items are used where feasible.

All aspirators spittoons are cleaned after each session.

Dental impressions are rinsed until visibly clean and disinfected by immersion in Perform before they leave the practice.

All waste is appropriately segregated and disposed in orange clinical waste bags and sharps containers accordingly. The practice uses Cannon Hygiene and PHS for waste disposal. Consignment notes are kept.

Any medical devices requiring maintenance, repair or inspection are decontaminated first.

Weekly surgery and practice checks are undertaken to monitor quality and infection control standards.

All staff is vaccinated against common illness and a record of their immunisation kept and reviewed regularly by Sandwell Occupational Health.

Staff are aware of how to deal with inoculation injuries and blood/saliva spillages.

Bottled water systems are used in all surgeries.

The practice has a written scheme to prevent legionella.

Floors are impervious and coved.

General housekeeping surfaces are cleaned according to the nature of the surface and the degree and type of decontamination

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