

Health & Safety

HEALTH & SAFETY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2016

Spotlighting Infection Control...

Clinic Asepsis Do's and Don'ts

As dental health professionals, we all know the importance of infection control policies and procedures. However, to support and recognize these protocols as the essential infrastructure of health care, we must keep a watchful eye on our **daily** practices. During your patient care, always remember to maintain asepsis by developing good habits and being vigilant about avoiding infection control breaches. The pictures below are great examples of some common lapses that could easily be avoided. Check the Health & Safety website for the SOD BBP manual and other safety policies.



Upper Right & Lower Right:
A recent audit of clinics revealed that **countertops** are an area that need special attention. Butcher paper should extend the entire counter surface and clutter should be eliminated. Special care should be taken to avoid contaminating paperwork and other non-treatment items with any items used on the patient (e.g. dentures).

"Your patients are your strongest critics and it is your duty to keep them safe, as well as your staff and yourself."

-Sandy Phillips
Director of Health & Safety

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"You don't need to know the whole alphabet of Safety. The a, b, c of it will save you if you follow it: Always Be Careful."

~Colorado School of Mines Magazine, Golden, Colorado, August 1918

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SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

On the Job: Dec., Jan. & Feb.

- ◆ **December = 6 Total** One incident was related to movement or action of a patient, two incidents involved handling equipment/instruments or sharps; and three resulted from the improper storage of instruments in cassettes.
- ◆ **January = 4 Total** One accident occurred during recapping of a sharp; and three events occurred due to improper handling of instruments or sharps.
- ◆ **February = 2 Total** Both resulted from handling of equipment/instruments or sharps.



REMINDER! Tofflemire Bands are considered "sharps." Please remove them and place in sharps container before returning holder to Sterilization.



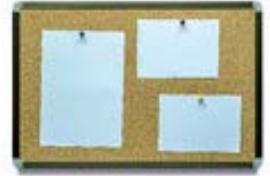
REMINDER: Staff and students should not re-sheath blades without using forceps! See the short example as shown on this YouTube demo.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cgUxQ9iKMkg>



Required Posting Period for OSHA Summaries February 1st - April 30th 2016

The 2015 Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 300A summaries of work-related injuries and illnesses are now posted on the Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) website, along with summaries for previous years. There are 10 summaries to select from; School of Dentistry departments are instructed by EH&S to select the “University of Washington Total” summary for posting.



The summaries are required to be posted from February 1, 2016 through April 30, 2016 in a location where employees can easily see them such as on a department's safety bulletin board or in a break room.

OSHA 300A Summaries show the number and type of work-related recordable injuries and illnesses. Recordable injuries and illnesses are considered serious in nature and result when any of the following occur: death, days away from work, restricted work or transfer to another job, medical treatment beyond first aid, loss of consciousness, or a significant injury or illness diagnosed by a licensed health care professional.



✓ Mark Your Calendars for H&S Events

March 28, March 29, March 30, and March 31 (Locations vary; the 3/31 date is in Health Sciences, Rm T-439, 8:30-9:30 AM) - UW Police Safety Training: How to Respond to an Active Shooter - For students, staff, and faculty, this training provides response tools to help protect you in the event of an “active shooter” incident before the police arrive. The Active Shooter training program is designed as an in-person training, with a facilitator, focused on developing your awareness skills, safety response measures, and information about reporting any observed behavioral concerns, at any time – anywhere. **No registration necessary, just show up! Training times & locations at:** <http://police.uw.edu/aboutus/uwpdevents/>



Need to renew your BLS Training? After completing your Part One on-line, cognitive portion of the AHA BLS Healthcare Provider CPR training at www.onlineaha.org you can attend one of the Skills Tests offered by UW Medicine held at Harborview. Upcoming Skills Tests: **Wed., April 12, 7-11 AM, Tues., April 19, 1-4 PM, Thurs., April 28, 7-11 AM, Thurs., May 10, 1-4 PM.** For registration or more information go to: <http://uwmtcharborview.enrollware.com/schedule>

Coming in May: **TB Testing for Faculty and Staff** (details in our Spring Newsletter!)



Did You Know? TWEETS-BY-BEAT

Find out about the flashing lights and sirens on your block...The Seattle Police Department is making it easier than ever before for you to find out about crime happening in your neighborhood.

- With Tweets by Beat, you can follow or view a Twitter feed of police dispatches in each of Seattle's 51 police beats. Not sure what beat you live in? Type in your address at the following link: <http://www.seattle.gov/police/tweets/>
- In order to protect crime victims, officers, and the integrity of investigations, calls will display one hour after a dispatcher sends the call to an officer.
- The feeds also do not include information about domestic violence calls, sexual assaults, and certain other types of crimes.



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