



EDITORS: CAROL HARVEY & SANDY PHILLIPS

UW SOD
Health & Safety
Newsletter

Vol. 4, Issue 3
Fall 2017

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Autumn is a season of change and the perfect opportunity to ‘fall into safety’!

AT HOME:

- ✓ Test and replace your smoke alarms
- ✓ Have your furnace inspected for possible leaks
- ✓ Use caution with candles
- ✓ Remove leaves from walkways, driveways and drains
- ✓ Turn off electric blankets by morning

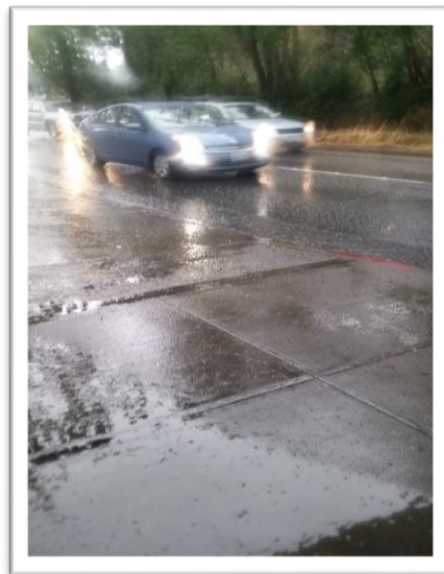
ON THE ROAD:

- ✓ Check and replace windshield wiper blades
- ✓ Check headlights
- ✓ Create safety kit for car

- ✓ Use caution when driving in rainy, snowy and foggy conditions

FOR YOURSELF:

- ✓ Try to eat healthy during the holiday season
- ✓ Get enough rest/sleep
- ✓ Unplug for an hour a day
- ✓ Stay hydrated
- ✓ Laugh
- ✓ Make time for yourself
- ✓ Express gratitude
- ✓ Breathe – in and out



WELCOME BACK!

Please join us in welcoming **Maria Saroha** to the OCS Sterilization team! Many of you know Maria who has been at the SOD for 4 years. Originally, she trained in the 4th year pre-doc clinic as a dental assistant extern, then was hired as a permanent employee in 2014 where she worked in the clinics and the sterilization services. Subsequently, she transferred to Endodontics where she has been assisting students, but has decided to return to original department. Her awesome teammates, **Chalet and CC** are thrilled to have her return. Please drop by and welcome her to this busy and critical area of the school!

What is New at SOD? – Waste Disposal!

Beginning January 2018 –

New containers for disposing used anesthetic carpules will be distributed in all clinics.

Both empty and partially used carpules should be placed in the new containers for disposal – NOT THE SHARPS CONTAINERS!

These containers are **ONLY** for anesthetic carpules.



Please remember to disinfect and separate all extracted teeth containing amalgam (or mercury) before disposal.

Think Safety for our Patient Relations Team!

To ensure the safety of our awesome Patient Relations Staff (Brett and Hallie), please do not direct patients in person to their office. Keep in mind their office is in a back corner, and does not have a 'back door' to exit in the unfortunate event of a potentially hostile patient. Instead, call them at **685-1022**, and ask them to come to the patient. They will arrange for an appropriate place to take the patient to discuss their concern. Thank you for your cooperation!

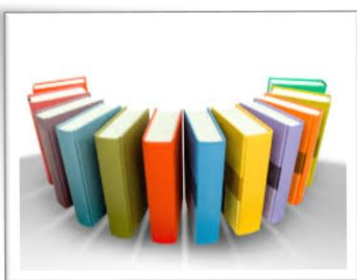
SOD Safety Policies: Familiarity breeds SUCCESS!

The SOD has several Safety Policies aimed at Patient & Workforce Safety.

This section will spotlight one or two of these policies.

The complete Policy Manual is located:

<https://dental.washington.edu/wp-content/media/policies/Clinic-Policy-Manual.pdfXXXXX>



Swallowed Foreign Objects Protocol

If patient is showing signs of distress, call 911

- Use patient positioning and rubber dam to avoid an event
- Reassure patient chairside
- Inform supervising faculty
- Advise patient of need for chest x-ray
- Call Exposure Hotline to obtain form to order chest film from UWMC Radiology Department
- Escort patient to UWMC Radiology for images (SS-202A)
- Document event in patient's EHR
- Complete on-line patient event form