

CDC Dental Infection Control Guidelines (2/04)

Kohn WG, Harte JA, Malvitz DM, Collins AS, Cleveland JL, Eklund KJ. Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health Care Settings—2003. *J Am Dent Assoc*;135:33–47.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is the lead federal agency for disease prevention in the United States. It has been 10 years since CDC infection control guidelines for dental health-care settings were last published. During those 10 years, new technologies and issues have emerged, and other CDC infection control guidelines for health-care settings have been updated. In light of these developments, CDC collaborated with experts in infection control to revise its infection control recommendations for dental health-care settings. Existing guidelines and published research pertinent to dental infection control principles and practices were reviewed. This article provides background information, describes the process used to create these guidelines, and lists the new recommendations. The CDC believes that dental offices that follow these new recommendations will strengthen an already admirable record of safe dental practice. Patients and providers alike can be assured that oral healthcare can be delivered and received in a safe manner.



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