



DENTAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

INFECTION CONTROL STANDARD WORKBOOK

ANSWER KEY

Updated August 2014
Includes CDC guidelines 2003

PART 1 - Review Questions:

1. Why are we providing this training to you during your first term at school?
It is a requirement of DBC that all dental assisting schools provide infection control training at the start of the program.
2. Who requires that this training be provided in a dental office?
OSHA
3. What does OSHA stand for and what is their main objective?
Occupational Safety and Health Administration – they are an organization whose objective is to protect employees from injury / illness on the job.

Answer the following questions True or False. If false, correct the statement to make it true.

4. Hepatitis B can be fatal. **True**
5. There is a vaccine for Hepatitis B. **True**
6. HBV can not live up to one week outside the host. **False**
7. Hepatitis B can be contracted through the air from the spray of a sneeze or cough. **True**
8. All pathogens are “bloodborne” pathogens. **False –Only pathogens (disease causing organisms) which are found in the blood are considered “bloodborne” pathogens.**
9. Pathogens are disease causing microorganisms. **True**
10. The Dental Board of California requires that employers must offer HBV vaccine to all employees who are potentially at risk for contracting the virus. **False - OSHA requires employers to offer the HBV vaccine.**
11. The vaccine must be offered within 15 days of hire. **False – it must be offered within 10 working days of hire or new assignment putting the employee at risk for potential exposure.**
12. Employees who refuse to have the vaccine must sign a declination. **True**
13. HIV is the most common chronic viral infection spread by blood. **False – Hepatitis C is the most common chronic viral infection spread by blood.**
14. Hepatitis C is more serious than Hepatitis B as most human’s immune system can not eliminate this virus. **True**

15. Most carriers of HCV carry the virus for the rest of their lives. **True**
16. Most people don't feel sick from HCV. **True**
17. Contracting HIV through an accidental needle stick is highly unlikely. **True**
18. An HIV infected person will know they are a carrier within one year of contraction of the virus. **False – they may be a carrier for years without having any symptoms.**
19. HIV can be spread through food/water, casual contact, sneezing or coughing.
**False – It can only be contracted through contact with contaminated:
Blood, Semen, vaginal fluid, breast milk and fluid around the brain and spinal cord, bone joints and surrounding an unborn baby.**
20. HIV can be contracted through contact with contaminated saliva. **False – HIV can NOT be contracted through contact with contaminated saliva.**
21. HIV attacks a person's immune system. When their immune system is so compromised that they can't fight off simple illnesses, they are said to have AIDS. **True**

Part 2 - Review Questions:

Answer the following questions True or False. If false, correct the statement to make it true.

1. Every business where there is potential exposure to bloodborne pathogens is required by U.S. Law to have an “Exposure Control Plan”. **True**
2. The three main categories in the Exposure Control Plan are: Engineering controls, working conditions / environment and use of PPE. **True**
3. PPE stands for Personal Property and Equipment. **False – it stands for Personal Protective Equipment.**
4. PPE only includes mask and gown. **False – it also includes gloves and eye protection.**
5. The Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act states that all employers are required to provide the most modern and safest devices for needle handling and that new devices and systems must be considered annually for implementation. **True**
6. It is o.k. to bend, break or shear a contaminated needle prior to disposal in a sharps container. **False – needles must NOT be altered before discarding in a sharps container.**
7. Food can not be stored in the fridge, freezer, cabinet or on countertops designed for blood or OPIM. **True**
8. It is only necessary to wash hands after removing gloves, not prior to donning gloves. **False – Two reasons: washing hands before gloving is necessary as bacteria breed quickly on the enclosed hand, and can spread if the glove is compromised. Washing hands after treatment is necessary, as gloves can be compromised without the HCP’s knowledge.**
9. Acrylic nails are of no particular concern in the health care field. **False – most dental offices prefer that acrylic/artificial nails are not worn by the DHCP. The majority of flora on the hands are found under and around the fingernails.**
10. Liquid soap is preferred over bar soap as it is easier to use. **False – liquid soap is recommended, but for a different reason. Pathogenic organisms have been found on or around bar soap during and after use.**

11. For routine dental examinations and non-surgical procedures, hand washing and hand antisepsis is achieved by using either a plain or antimicrobial soap and water. **True**
12. The term “sanitize” means to kill all life-form. **False – “Sterilize” means to kill all life-form. The term “sanitize” generally means “free from debris”.**
13. COMDA requires that all dental instruments be sanitized in an Ultrasonic Cleaning Machine in order to prevent injury. **False – OSHA has this requirement.**
14. “Precogning” and “Sanitizing” generally mean the same thing. **True**
15. Disinfection means the removal of SOME microorganisms, not necessarily all. **True**
16. There are three ways to disinfect: scrubbing, soaking in “cold sterile” for 15 minutes and spraying with disinfectant spray. **False – there are TWO ways: soaking in “cold sterile” for 10 minutes, spraying with disinfectant spray and letting sit for 10 minutes.**
17. Sterilization is “killing all life form”. **True**
18. The Dental Board of California has specific guidelines for the process of preparing items for re-use in the dental office. **True**
19. There are two ways to sterilize: in a special machine and in “cold sterile” if left for more than 10 hours. **True**
20. The best way to describe sanitizing is that it is the removal of debris, where disinfecting and sterilizing has to do with killing microorganisms. **True**
21. Employees in the dental office who may on occasion be exposed to blood or saliva are a “Category IV” employee. **False – Category II.**
22. Instruments which are classified as “critical” must be disposable, so as to ensure that infectious diseases are not transmitted from patient to patient. **False – they can be disposable, but if not, must be able to sterilize.**
23. Instruments which are classified as “non-critical” must be sterilized prior to use on the next patient. **False – intermediate to low-level disinfection or basic cleaning.**
24. A scalpel and a bone chisel are both examples of “critical” instruments. **True**

25. There is very low risk of disease transmission from touching the x-ray head during radiation exposure. **True**

Part 3 - Review Questions:

Answer the following questions True or False. If false, correct the statement to make it true.

1. OSHA's guidelines for infection control and PPE are established to protect the patient. **False – they are established to protect the employee.**
2. It is only necessary to wear PPE when assisting during a surgical procedure. **False – PPE must be worn WHENEVER working on a patient.**
3. Your family will not mind if you don't wear your PPE, they are not at risk. **False – anything contracted on the body or clothing may be brought home and transferred to family members.**
4. The use of rotary dental and surgical instruments (dental “drill”) and the air/water syringe in the dental office during dental treatment creates a visible spray that contains droplets of water, saliva, blood and OPIM. **True**
5. Patients are only carriers of infectious diseases if they look sick. **False – patients may have a communicable disease for years without having any signs or symptoms of the disease.**
6. “Universal Precautions” means treating ALL blood or OPIM as if they are infectious. **True**
7. It is not necessary to cover the nose with the surgical mask. **False – contraction of a communicable disease may occur through inhalation of the microorganism through the nose.**
8. If a face shield is worn, a mask is not necessary. **False – a mask is still required to prevent inhalation of any pathogenic microorganisms.**
9. Both exam gloves and surgeon's gloves are manufactured as single-use disposable items that should be used for only one patient, then discarded. **True**
10. It is not necessary to wash hands if gloves are used. No cross contamination is possible. **False – washing hands before gloving is necessary as bacteria breed quickly on the enclosed hand, and can spread if the glove is compromised. Washing hands after treatment is necessary, as gloves can be compromised without the HCP's knowledge.**

11. Sterile surgical gloves are required at all times. **False – they are only required during surgical procedures. Otherwise, exam gloves are permitted.**
12. Utility gloves are worn during treatment of patients. **False – they are worn during “turn over” of the operatory after treatment and in the sterilization area during instrument processing.**
13. Utility gloves are puncture resistant and can be sterilized. **Some are – some aren’t. The recommended gloves for the dental office ARE puncture resistant and CAN be sterilized.**
14. Utility gloves are optional and need only to be worn if working in a surgical setting. **Though utility gloves are HIGHLY recommended, and a requirement of COMDA, they are not REQUIRED by the Dental Board of California or by OSHA.**