Laboratory Infection Control Policy

A high standard of infection control is of prime importance in this laboratory. It is essential to the safety of all who come into contact with our laboratory. Every member of staff will receive training in all aspects of infection control, including decontamination of impressions, appliances and equipment, this policy must be adhered to at all times. If there is any aspect that is not clear, please ask: Roy Morgan Jones, Laboratory Infection Control Lead.

This policy operates in conjunction with the Laboratory Health and Safety and Governance Policies.

This policy will be reviewed at regular intervals and it is important that you understand it fully and are prepared to answer any questions that clients may ask you about it.

1. Laboratory staff should be immunised against blood-borne viruses as identified by Infection control risk assessment and in accordance with available industry guidance. Records of these immunisations should be retained.

2. The laboratory provides appropriate protective clothing, gloves, eyewear and masks that must be worn by technicians during all production procedures. Protective clothing worn in the laboratory must not be worn outside the laboratory premises.

3. Before donning gloves, hands must be washed using Hot water with soap solution and/or disinfected with alcohol hand rub.

4. Impressions will be disinfected using Mikrozid or similar (disinfectant). For patients identified to us as high risk infection cases we will use, a Disinfection Bath or a similar disinfecting tray and Perform or similar disinfectant for the specified time and at the specified concentration.

5. For infection control purposes working areas will be kept uncluttered with surface area and tools kept to a minimum, clearly identified, and, after session, cleaned with ethanol based cleaner (detergent) and disinfected using ethanol based cleaner.
6. In the event of an injury, the wound should if possible be made/allowed to bleed freely, then washed thoroughly under running water and covered with a waterproof dressing. The incident should be recorded in the accident book and immediately discussed with Roy Morgan Jones to assess whether further action is needed. Advice on post-exposure prophylaxis can be obtained from Roy Morgan Jones or health care professional.

7. All clinical waste must be placed in the appropriate containers provided in each area. When no more than three quarters full the containers must be securely fastened and stored in industrial waste storage area (designated area).

8. All dental impressions, not marked as disinfected, must be rinsed until visibly clean and disinfected using Miktozid, or the use of a Disinfection Bath, or a similar disinfecting tray, and Perform or similar disinfectant for the specified time and at specified concentration. Once this is done, labelled as ‘disinfected’ before being sent to the production area. Appliances returned to the Dental practice should also be in a clean condition and labelled with Patient label Certification.

9. Any accidental spillages involving a potentially hazardous substance will be reported to Roy Morgan Jones.

10. Anyone developing a reaction to any substance compound or chemical or the protective gloves must inform First Aid Representative immediately.

11. All staff involved with clinical procedures must receive appropriate training in all aspects of infection control including decontamination. This should be reviewed and recorded annually.

12. Eating, drinking and smoking is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** in any receiving, production or despatch area.

**ALL STAFF WILL OBSERVE TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY IN ALL INFORMATION RELATING TO CLIENTS OF THE LABORATORY.**

Date: 29/07/2013

Review Date: 31/07/2014

Health & Safety