

Sterilization in the Dental Office

Your dental office should stay informed of the latest changes in dentistry sterilization techniques. Sterilization should be a primary concern in dental offices.

There are material objects that come into contact with a patient. Many objects in the dental office are disposable and discarded between each patient. If an item is not disposable, such as a piece of dental equipment, a barrier is created. Barriers are physical coverings that prevent the patient from coming into contact with any portion of the equipment. You will notice thick plastic coverings over most of the equipment in the examination rooms. These are replaced between each patient to ensure no possibility of contamination.

The most obvious way to protect against the spread of disease or infection is to sterilize the equipment and personnel that come in contact with the patient. This is done through rigorous internal standards for every person in the office to disinfect their hands between each patient and follow strict guidelines of personal hygiene. Of course, disposable gloves are worn by all personnel when examining a patient and changed between each patient. Often, if personnel leave the room to check an X-ray, and so forth, the gloves are replaced during a single session. Masks are always worn to protect against airborne contaminants. More on sterilization next week.

For answers to this article or questions, please e-mail us at info@woodburyfamilydental.com

**118 River Road, Suite #14
Triangle Plaza, Harriman, NY
845-782-1800**

Please call us for a no-charge consultation.

