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Infection control in Oralmaxillofacial Radiology

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It has been known that dental personnel and patients have a big risk in getting tuberculosis infection, syphilis, herpes virus, upper respiratory up to hepatitis and HIV virus. The main purpose of infection control procedures is to prevent cross contamination between patients and between patients and health care providers. Dental radiographs have great potential for cross contamination. Contamination initiated by the operator's hand contact with the patient's mouth or film and film holder contaminated saliva, then the operator to adjust the x-ray tube head and the control panel to make the exposure. Contamination can also occur when the operator opens the package the film in a dark room.

The purpose of this paper is to recalls that infection control needs a serious attention by the radiologist. This paper is study of literature from a variety of sources journals and text books related to this theme.

Anamnesis history of the patient's disease prior to radiation exposure should be done. Operators should minimize or eliminate cross contamination by applying universal precautions by wearing gloves during the procedure radiographic; perform disinfection and cover the x-ray machine, work surfaces, chairs and apron; sterilize non disposable instrument; using a barrier-protected films or disposable container; preventing contamination from processing equipment.

So, every radiography dental practice should make standard operating procedures for infection control in radiography room and responsibility to apply it.

Keywords: Infection-control, Oral-maxilofacial, Radiology