



AUSTRALIAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION INC.

POLICY STATEMENT

INFECTION CONTROL

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The public concern over the transmission of blood-borne viruses has focussed attention on [cross] infection control. Various authorities have developed guidelines to minimise the risk of exposure to infection. State and Territory Registration Boards have used such guidelines to evaluate the professional conduct of dentists.
- 1.2 Dentistry is performed in settings ranging from hospitals, offices, mobile vans and is provided to bed-ridden patients. Infection Control guideline must be adaptable and economically feasible for these situations.

2 Policy

- 2.1 The Australian Dental Association Inc. [ADA] encourages all dentists and allied dental personnel to take all practical measures to minimise the risk of disease transmission within the dental environment.
- 2.2 The ADA encourages any authority which develops infection control regulations, codes, guidelines and/or standards, relevant to dentistry, to seek expert dental opinion.
- 2.3 The ADA accepts the broad guidelines of the following documents, provided always that regulatory authorities allow for a flexible approach to the management of risk in varying dental environments:
 - 2.3.1 "Infection Control Guidelines for the prevention of transmission of infectious diseases in the health care setting" [2004] published by the Department of Health and Ageing.
 - 2.3.2 AS/NZS 4815 "Office based healthcare facilities not involved in complex patient procedures and processes - Cleaning, disinfecting and sterilising re-useable medical and surgical instruments and equipment, and maintenance of the associated environment".
 - 2.3.3 AS/NZS 4187 : 2003 "Cleaning, disinfecting and sterilizing reusable medical and surgical instruments and equipment, and maintenance of associated environments in health care facilities.



Policy Statement 5.1

Adopted by ADA Federal Council, November 15/16, 2001.

Amended by Federal Council, November 11/12, 2004.