

# I-Smile™ @ School Infection Control Guidelines



The following guidelines reflect the required infection control policies as part of the I-Smile™ @ School program.

## **Prior to providing dental services:**

All Child and Adolescent Health (CAH) programs must follow the health and safety procedures identified by their specific agency.

For infection control purposes, the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) requires daily well checks of all I-Smile™ @ School direct service providers and onsite clerical/administrative staff. A template wellness log is available from the Bureau of Oral and Health Delivery Systems if a sufficient log is not being used by the CAH agency. I-Smile™ @ School dental hygienists and dental assistants and onsite clerical/administrative staff must take his/her temperature with a digital thermometer prior to (on the same day as) providing services. Record whether or not staff have a temperature at/above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit. Maintain the updated log electronically on a secure network/cloud server until IDPH instructs otherwise.

Anyone with a temperature reading of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater cannot provide direct services or administrative duties and must leave the site immediately, avoid interaction with other people, and contact a medical provider. No staff may work if he/she is feeling sick with cold, flu, or COVID-19 symptoms.

## **Direct services provided:**

- Dental screening
- Fluoride varnish application
- Dental sealant application
- Silver diamine fluoride application
- Individualized education

*Providing the services listed above and following these guidelines, results in a low-risk non-aerosol generating environment.*

## **Service settings:**

- Schools
- MCAH contractor office/clinic

If there are additional settings where the services listed above may be provided, contact your oral health consultant prior to providing services to assure compliance with Public Health Supervision and I-Smile™ requirements.

## **Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the dental hygienist and dental assistant:**

- Fluid-resistant long-sleeved lab coat or gown that extends below the knee (disposable is recommended)
- Gloves (latex-free, non-sterile)
- Plastic face shield
- Surgical face mask, level 2 or 3

## **Optional PPE for the dental hygienist and dental assistant:**

- Respirator (N95 mask)
- Goggles
- Hair covering
- Shoe coverings

*All recommendations provided were developed during the COVID-19 pandemic using interim guidelines as created by the IDB, CDC, OSHA, IDPH, and the FDA and are subject to change as more information becomes available.*

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## Requirements for direct service infection control:

- Wear a level 2 or 3 surgical face mask at all times and change it when it becomes soiled, damaged or difficult to breathe through
- Use disposable, single use materials when possible
- Wear a lab coat or gown upon entry into the area where the direct service(s) will be provided and remove before leaving the direct service area
- Dispose of all waste in a garbage bag or a garbage bag-lined container
- After each patient, remove and dispose of gloves and wash hands; if handwashing is not an option, use a generous amount of hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content
- Clean and disinfect all surfaces using EPA-approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2 immediately after completing services for each patient
- Disinfect the face shield with soap and water at the end of each day or when visibly soiled
- Remove all waste, including used PPE, at the end of each event/day, and place in a dumpster or garbage can outside the building
- An air/water syringe may be used, but air and water cannot be used at the same time to avoid producing aerosols
- A handpiece cannot be used

## Documentation:

- If a dental assistant is not available, additional staff to complete documentation is strongly encouraged to reduce opportunities for cross-contamination of surfaces and materials
- If additional staff (e.g. lay person, nurse, clerical staff) are used to complete documentation:
  - Face masks (cloth or surgical) must be worn at all times by clerical/administrative staff and changed when soiled, damaged or hard to breathe through
  - Disinfect frequently touched surfaces often
  - Wash hands often or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content
  - Social distancing must be maintained, staying at least six feet away from other people; if unable to maintain this distance from the direct service provider, a lab coat or gown and face shield must be worn
- If the dental hygienist is completing documentation:
  - All soiled PPE and used supplies must be removed and properly disposed prior to the documentation activities
  - Face masks must be worn
  - Over-gloves may be used, but must be discarded at the end of the service/appointment

## Screening Children for COVID-19:

- Prior to providing services and prior to a student entering the treatment area, take each student's temperature with a no-touch digital thermometer and record the reading in the upper right corner of the child's consent form
- Assess each student for cold, flu and COVID-19 symptoms prior to him/her entering the treatment area
  - Proceed with services if: child's temperature is 100.3 degrees Fahrenheit or less and the child exhibits no symptoms of cold, flu or COVID-19
  - Do not provide services if: child's temperature is 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater or the child exhibits symptoms of cold, flu or COVID-19 – accompany student to the nurse's office for further assessment and provide a parent letter for this student indicating why services could not be provided

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