Infection Control
Frequently Asked Questions
FAQs

What is infection control?
This is the way that teams in Oasis practices make sure that your care is provided in a safe way, in premises that are clean.

How can I be assured that I am safe when I visit an Oasis Practice?
Oasis has well established and vigorous infection control policies. These polices address all aspects of the operation of an Oasis practice with a strong focus on the provision of clinical care.

How do I know that Oasis gives my Dentist and Nurse the correct information?
Oasis assesses current guidelines from the authorities, ensures that they are understood and that our policies and protocols do what the guidelines require.

How those do polices work in my practice
Oasis has detailed step by step processes for all stages of infection control.

Will the team who look after me be trained in preventing the spread of infection?
Anyone who works in an Oasis practice receives training in infection control. Your dentist, hygienist therapist and nurse will have had training specific to the way that your care is provided.

This training is provided when a clinician joins Oasis and it is updated a regular basis.
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How can I be assured that instruments used during my treatment will be clean?

The Oasis protocols ensure that all instruments are cleaned and sterilised and then stored in a way that ensures that they are clean when they are used during your appointment.

What happens between patients?

Between every patient the clinical team will clean their hands. Team members will change gloves between every patient as a minimum. Surfaces and fixed equipment in the surgery will be cleaned and disinfected.

What happens once the dental instruments have been used on a patient?

Instruments will be transported safely to the decontamination room; they will be cleaned to remove debris, they will be sterilised in an autoclave, they will be placed into an instrument pouch which is then sealed or placed in protected trays.

Why don’t you throw instruments away every time?

In an Oasis practice, any item of equipment that cannot be effectively sterilised is disposed of after every appointment. Many dental instruments are high precision items that cannot readily be manufactured in a disposable form and these instruments are sterilised and stored.

In addition Oasis uses specific systems to ensure that all dental water lines remain free from contamination.
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Who checks that Oasis is operating correctly?

All Oasis practices are regulated by an external authority. In England this will be the CQC *. In Wales the HIW* and in Northern Ireland the RQIA*. Infection control is a key part of their assessment process. NHS bodies will also require Oasis to comply with National Guidance.

Can I check this?

Oasis’ website has a link to the external inspection report for your practice: [www.oasisdentalcare.com](http://www.oasisdentalcare.com)

Is there a risk of acquiring an infection from my dentist?

All clinical team members, dentist therapist hygienist and nurse will have received appropriate immunisations to prevent the possible infections. e.g. Hepatitis B.

Can I ask Questions?

Of course. Any member of the clinical team will be happy to listen to your questions and explain how your safety is assured. Oasis are also happy for the dental team to show you our decontamination facilities.

I have seen something during my appointment that worries me but don’t want be a nuisance by asking about it

Ask the questions. You won’t be thought of as being difficult. Our teams will welcome questions.

What if I’m still worried?

Ask to speak to the practice manager.

Oasis teams work hard to ensure that your care is provided in a safe setting.

*Care Quality Commission
*Regulation and Improvement Quality Authority
*Healthcare Inspectorate Wales