



India Chance, RHD, CDIPC

DENTAL OFFICE OSHA Compliance Guide

Ensuring a safe and healthy workplace is paramount for dental settings. OSHA, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, sets the standards for workplace safety. This handout provides basic information on OSHA compliance for dental settings to safeguard employees and maintain a secure working environment.

1 GENERAL DUTY AND WALKING/WORKING SURFACES:

- Adhere to the General Duty Clause to maintain a safe environment.
- Ensure surfaces are free from slipping, tripping, and falling hazards.
- Foster a workspace comfortable and secure for employees.

2 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Conduct hazard assessments to determine necessary PPE.
- Provide and maintain clean PPE, including gloves, safety glasses, gowns, and masks.
- Educate employees on proper use, fitting, and disposal of PPE.

3 HAZARDOUS COMMUNICATIONS STANDARD:

- Label hazardous chemicals properly.
- Develop a written hazard communication program.
- Provide Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for each chemical used.
- Conduct employee training on hazardous material handling.

4 RADIATION STANDARD:

- Implement caution signs or labels for radiation-exposed areas.
- Ensure proper use of lead aprons for patients.
- Train employees on correct procedures for their safety which include:
 - At least 6ft away when exposing an xray when using a wall unit
 - Standing behind a barrier wall if applicable
 - Manufacturer instructions For Use (MIFU) must be followed for hand-held devices
 - Using a dosimeter/film badge if required (check with State laws)

5 BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS STANDARD:

- Develop a written exposure control plan.
- Enforce Standard Precautions
- Ensure documentation of Hepatitis B vaccinations for any team member with clinical duties.
- Train staff on safe needle handling, proper PPE use, and waste disposal.

6 OSHA REQUIRED PAPERWORK:

- Maintain safety plans, exposure control, and hazard communication documents.
- Keep records of exposure determination, chemical inventory, and vaccination status.
- Have injury or exposure incident reports readily available.
- Ensure annual employee records of OSHA training sessions.

7 EMPLOYEE EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

- Provide comprehensive training upon hiring (within 10 days of start date) and annually.
- Cover all OSHA standards during training sessions & provide time for a Q&A.
- Encourage ongoing improvement of safety and efficiency in the workplace.

Achieving full OSHA compliance is crucial for dental settings. Your commitment to OSHA standards enhances the well-being of your employees and the success of your dental practice. This handout is designed to provide a basic overview of OSHA regulations for dental settings. It does not encompass all regulations, nor should it be considered as exhaustive legal advice. While we strive for accuracy and completeness, no guarantees are made that adherence to the information in this handout will result in passing a legal OSHA inspection. Learn2Prevent is not liable for any outcomes, errors, or omissions related to the use of this handout. For complete understanding and compliance with OSHA regulations, please consult with a professional legal advisor.