BUMED NOTICE 6600

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: DENTAL INSTRUMENT STERILIZATION TRAINING STANDARDS

Ref: (a) BUMEDINST 6220.9B

1. **Purpose.** The Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) identified a requirement for standardized training related to reprocessing procedures for dental instruments. This notice provides information regarding Dental Instrument Sterilization Training (DentIST) through online modules designed to supplement formal in-person training.

2. **Scope.** Navy, Marine Corps, and Fleet Dental Departments having dental instrument reprocessing technicians.

3. **Background.** The Joint Commission (TJC) requires staff assigned to perform or oversee instrument reprocessing to use standard precautions as defined by the Centers for Disease Control. In addition, TJC Human Resource standards require demonstration of competency in the tasks each member of the sterile processing team is to perform. In order to comply with those standards, each member must receive formal in-person training on current recommendations and standards for cleaning, decontamination, packaging, sterilization, and management of dental instruments. Additionally, BUMED is requiring the completion of online training modules to supplement formal, in-person training.

4. **Action**
   
   a. In coordination with Sterile Processing University, LLC, seven training modules are available in Swank HealthCare, [https://navy.swankhealth.com](https://navy.swankhealth.com). The modules provide general educational background on current standards related to cleaning, packaging, and sterilization of reusable items specific to dental instrument reprocessing. This is BUMED required training to supplement the guidelines in reference (a), TJC standards, and local command policy.

   b. As a prerequisite, all dental instrument processing technicians (active duty, Reserve, contractor, and civilian) performing instrument processing tasks and infection preventionists (command infection control officers, branch infection control officers, and others) overseeing these processes must complete the first five basic training modules within 30 days from release of this notice; upon initial assignment to sterile processing areas; and annually thereafter. Basic
Modules 1-5 can be found under course title “Dental Instrument Sterilization Training (DentIST),” course number NM-17-DIST, which is located under “Navy Medicine,” “Dental” and include:

(1) Module 1 – Standards and Guidelines

(2) Module 2 – Decontamination

(3) Module 3 – Packaging Materials and Methods

(4) Module 4 – Sterilization

(5) Module 5 – Dental Instrument Storage

c. Modules 6 and 7 are located under “Navy Medicine,” “Dental,” course number NM-17-DHLD (Module 6) and NM-17-DRCSS (Module 7), and include:

(1) Module 6 – High Level Disinfection

(2) Module 7 – Rigid Container Systems for Sterilization

5. **Reports Management.** Swank HealthCare training reports will be generated on a quarterly basis by the command training officer and forwarded to the Dental Corps Infection Control Specialty Advisor via Navy Medicine Regional Dental Officers, Dental Battalion Commanding Officers, or Fleet Dental Officers. The BUMED Dental point of contact is Dental Corps Infection Control Specialty Advisor, who may be reached at usn.ncr.bumedfchva.list.dental-instrument-sterilization-training@mail.mil.

6. **Records Management.** Records created as a result of this notice, regardless of media and format, must be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

7. **Information Management Control.** The reports required in paragraph 5 are exempt from reports control per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5214.1 of December 2005, part IV, paragraph 7k.

\[Signature\]

C. FORREST FAISON III

Releasability and distribution:
This notice is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via the Navy Medicine Web site at: [http://www.med.navy.mil/directives/Pages/BUMEDNotes.aspx](http://www.med.navy.mil/directives/Pages/BUMEDNotes.aspx).