

Improved work practices may decrease injuries by limiting uncontrolled movements of instruments under force (eg, scalers or laboratory knives) or by restricting the use of fingers to retract tissue during suturing or administration of anesthesia. Bur injuries may be avoided by removal of the bur before placing the handpiece in the dental unit. Because injuries often involve the fingers and hands, the continued development of personal protective equipment such as puncture-resistant gloves and thimbles may be important. Once developed, however, these preventive interventions must be evaluated to determine whether they reduce blood exposures among dental workers without adversely affecting patient care.

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HICPAC Draft Guideline for Infection Control in Health Care Personnel, 1997

The HICPAC "Draft Guideline for Infection Control in Health Care Personnel, 1997" will be published for review and comment in the *Federal Register* as Part V on September 8, 1997. Below is a portion of the *Federal Register* notice.

The deadline for written comments is October 17, 1997. The *Federal Register* is now available on the Internet (address below), and there is a link to the document on the Hospital Infections Program, National Center for Infectious Diseases, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) home pages under "What's New."

Written comments on the draft document must be received on or before October 17, 1997.

Comments on this document should be submitted in writing to the

CDC, Attn: PHG Information Center, Mailstop E-68, 1600 Clifton Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30333.

To order copies of the *Federal Register* containing the document, contact the US Government Printing Office, Order and Information Desk, Washington, DC 20402-9329, telephone (202) 512-1800.

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The draft document can be found on the Web at <http://frwebgate2.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/waisgate.cgi?WALSdocID=0099130659+14+0+0&WALSaction=retrieve>. (Note: type as one continuous line of text, no spaces or returns.)

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