

Review of Guidelines on infection control: public consultation

Introduction

The Dental Board of Australia (the Board) wants to make it easier for practitioners to know and understand the professional expectations around infection prevention and control to help them practice safely.

As part of this, the Board is reviewing its *Guidelines on infection control*. The Board is consulting on whether to shift the information contained in the guidelines to more accessible and helpful tools and resources, such as a one-stop fact sheet and a self-reflective tool.

Please ensure you have read the public consultation paper and attachments before answering this survey.

Publication of your responses

Please let us know if you would like your responses published.

- Yes, I would like my responses to be published
- Please do not publish my responses

About your responses

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

- Yes
- No

Submission contact details

First name

Last name

Which of the following best describes you:

- Dental practitioner
- Other health practitioner
- Member of the community
- Other (please describe)

The following questions will help us to gather information about the Board's proposal.

Please ensure you have read the public consultation papers before responding.

Q1. Which of the Board's proposed options do you prefer?

- Option 1 - keep and revise the guidelines
- Option 2 - replace the guidelines with other supporting resources
- Other

Q1. Please provide more information about your answer.

What effect does this have on patient data privacy? This review deals with sensitive issues such as STI testing, I just want to know that whatever guidelines you have, that you've factored in the sensitivity of that data and understand that patients don't like being forced to provide information like that; don't want it in their medical records under their real names; would prefer to only have STI testing done pseudonymously; don't want STI information included in ehealth records; and object to the communicable diseases register? Do your guidelines reflect the sensitivity of that data and the overwhelming wishes of the patient population that it be handled more sensitively/not recorded at all?

Q2. If you prefer option 1, to keep and revise the guidelines, do you have any suggestions about the language, structure or content of the draft revised guidelines (**Attachment C**)?

As above - please consider any guidelines from a patient data privacy perspective.

Q3a. Would replacing the guidelines with other supporting resources result in any unintended consequences or costs for **dental practitioners**?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Q3a. Please provide more information about your answer.

Unknown.

Q3b. Would replacing the guidelines with other supporting resources result in any unintended consequences or costs for **dental practices**?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Q3b. Please provide more information about your answer.

Unknown.

Q3c. Would replacing the guidelines with other supporting resources result in any unintended consequences or costs for **patients or consumers**?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Q3c. Please describe or quantify any unintended consequences or costs for **patients or consumers**.

Potential data privacy implications. Please consider sensitivity of STI health information, and the objection of most patients to having that testing recorded under their real names or shared online.

Q3d. Would replacing the guidelines with other supporting resources result in any unintended consequences or costs for **members of the community vulnerable to harm**?

- Yes
 No
 Other

Q3d. Please describe or quantify any unintended consequences or costs for **members of the community vulnerable to harm**.

As above - please consider patient data privacy implications re STI health information.

Q3e. Would replacing the guidelines with other supporting resources result in any unintended consequences or costs for **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples**?

- Yes
 No
 Other

Q3e. Please describe or quantify any unintended consequences or costs for **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples**.

As above - please consider patient data privacy implications re: STI health information.

Q4. Do you have any suggestions about the language, structure or content of the draft revised fact sheet (**Attachment D**)?

- Yes
 No

Q4. Please outline your suggestions about the language, structure or content of the draft revised fact sheet (**Attachment D**).

As above - please consider patient data privacy implications re: STI health information.

Q5. Do you have any suggestions about the language, structure or content of the draft self-reflective tool (**Attachment E**)?

- Yes
 No

Q5. Please outline your suggestions about the language, structure or content of the draft self-reflective tool (**Attachment E**).

As above - please consider patient data privacy implications re: STI health information.

Q6. Do you have any other feedback about the Board's proposal?

As above - please consider patient data privacy implications re: STI health information.