
Reducing the risk of Cross Infection

Reducing the risk of cross infection is an essential part of General Practice Management.

There are several aspects which must be considered

- General Cleaning of the Practice
- Sterilisation of re-usable instruments and other items
- Storage of sterilised items
- Disposal of clinical waste
- Disposal of sharps
- Handling accidental spills
- Staff safety

Generally, practices should ensure:

- Protocols exist for all aspects of cross infection minimisation procedures
- Contracts and certification of EPA compliance is at hand where third parties are involved
- Staff members are appointed to have responsibility in each of the areas
- Staff are aware of all procedures and protocols
- Staff are offered appropriate immunisation
- Staff are offered continuing education in cross infection minimisation
- Systems exist to cope with problems as they arise

Reference: RACGP Infection Control Standards for Office Based Practices – 4 Edition