



Patients of Bankstown dentist advised of health risk

South Western Sydney Local Health District (SWSLHD) is advising patients who have undergone invasive dental procedures carried out by Dr Chao Bao Dinh at his Bankstown dental surgeries to consider seeing their GP for testing for blood-borne viruses.

An investigation by SWSLHD and the Dental Council of NSW identified infection control breaches by Dr Dinh, with his practices failing to comply with relevant National Guidelines. The Dental Council has since suspended Dr Dinh from practising as a dentist.

Dr Dinh was working as a sole practitioner at Liberty Plaza, Unit 45, 256 Chapel Street, Bankstown. Dr Dinh has recently closed this practice. He had previously operated from:

- premises at Unit 4, 324 Chapel Road South Bankstown, which no longer exists, and
- Fetherstone Street Bankstown

Acting Director SWSLHD Public Health Unit Dr Madhumati Chatterji said all patients of Dr Dinh who underwent invasive procedures at his practices should see their GP to be tested for blood borne viruses such as hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV, as a precaution.

“The potential risk of infection applies to patients who underwent invasive procedures, such as those involving a needle or other instrument piercing the skin, gums or tooth root and other procedures where bleeding may have occurred,” Dr Chatterji said.

“It’s important to note that the risk of a blood-borne virus to any individual patient is low.

“Patients who only had simple check-ups, an x-ray or denture fittings should not be at risk but those with doubts or concerns should see their GP,” she said.

Hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV can remain undetected for years but effective treatments are now available to prevent long-term health effects and transmission to other people.

The Dental Council identified Dr Dinh’s poor infection control practices as part of an ongoing audit of infection control measures in dental practices. The audit commenced in November 2015 following the discovery of infection control breaches at four private Sydney dental clinics.

Dr William O’Reilly, President of the Dental Council of NSW, said the Council’s auditing process has so far revealed a high level of compliance among dental practitioners in NSW.

“The overwhelming majority of dental practitioners who have been audited by the Council have demonstrated sound knowledge of infection control guidelines, procedures and obligations,” Dr O’Reilly said.

Dental Council of NSW

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Council of New South Wales

Media Release



Health
South Western Sydney
Local Health District

The audit is part of a broader initiative by the Dental Council to assist the profession in understanding infection control guidelines and obligations.

The Dental Council has referred the matter concerning Dr Dinh to the Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC) for investigation.

For more information

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local public health unit on 1300 066 055.

Please refer to the NSW Health website for further information on this matter.

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/alerts/Pages/dental-practices.aspx>

For FAQs, please see: <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/alerts/Pages/dental-practices-faq.aspx>

For information on blood-borne viruses

see: http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/Hepatitis_B.aspx

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/Hepatitis_C.aspx

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/HIV_AIDS.aspx

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