



Thursday September 19, 2019

To patients of Kawartha Endodontics (located at 425 Water Street, Suite 200, Peterborough ON, K9H 3L9) who received dental treatment before July 16, 2019.

During an inspection completed by Peterborough Public Health (PPH) on July 15, 2019, evidence was found that dental equipment/devices were not cleaned and sterilized according to provincial infection prevention and control standards and that the relevant record keeping and policies/procedures were incomplete. Consequently, PPH issued an order to close the clinic on July 15, 2019. Since the time of the inspections and order, staff from the dental clinic worked with PPH to ensure all dental equipment/devices are being cleaned and sterilized according to provincial infection prevention and control standards. The clinic was re-opened on July 26, 2019 when they demonstrated full compliance with the provincial standards.

Having dental treatment using instruments that have not been properly cleaned or properly sterilized carries a risk of transmitting blood-borne infections, such as hepatitis B (HBV) and hepatitis C (HCV), and to an even lesser extent, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

On August 27, 2019 and August 29, 2019, the dentist was ordered to provide patient contact information to allow PPH to notify patients of the risk of infection. As the dentist is appealing this Order, PPH has been unable to conduct direct patient notification and therefore is utilizing other means to reach potentially impacted patients in a timely way.

At this time, PPH is not aware of any cases of hepatitis B, hepatitis C or HIV transmission at the dental clinic but based on our investigation we are recommending that patients who received dental treatment prior to **July 16, 2019** see their health care provider and consider whether they should be tested. This recommendation does not apply to visits that occurred on or after July 26, 2019.

Testing is important to protect your own health and to protect the health of others. **If you decide to consult with your health care provider, take this letter, the enclosed health care provider letter, and lab requisition to your appointment. If you do not have a health care provider, you may access care at a walk-in clinic.**

If you have any questions or concerns, speak with your health care provider or visit the Peterborough Public Health website at <https://www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/IPACLapseKawarthaEndodontics>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R Salvaterra".

Rosana Salvaterra, MD, MSc, CCFP, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health,
Peterborough Public Health



Thursday, September 19, 2019

Attention: Healthcare Providers

RE: INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL LAPSE AT KAWARTHA ENDODONTICS (Peterborough, ON)

During an inspection at Kawartha Endodontics on July 15, 2019, evidence was found that medical equipment/devices were not cleaned and sterilized according to provincial infection prevention and control standards. In addition, there was inconsistent record keeping and incomplete policies/procedures. The clinic was closed on July 15, 2019 and staff from the dental clinic worked with Peterborough Public Health to ensure that all deficits were corrected according to provincial standards. The clinic was re-opened on July 26, 2019 when full compliance was demonstrated.

Based on a risk assessment patients who received dental treatment at this clinic, we believe there is risk of transmission of blood borne and/or bacterial pathogens. Unfortunately, we are unable to determine both the start and the duration of this risk. Similarly, we have been unable to obtain patient contact information to allow us to carry out direct patient notification as the dentist is appealing the Health Promotion and Protection Act (HPPA) Section 13 Order that we issued on August 27, 2019. A hearing has been scheduled for January, 2020.

Given this projected delay, we have been compelled to use other available means to advise members of the public who received treatment at Kawartha Endodontics prior to July 16, 2019, to visit their health care provider for a personalized risk assessment and testing. Please use the attached lab requisition for bloodwork. Patients who have received treatment in the clinic since it has reopened on July 26, 2019 are not included in this advisory.

We are recommending the following actions:

1. Assess your patient and consider testing for the following:

- Hepatitis B acute infection (HBsAg and anti-HBc IgM)
- Hepatitis B immunity (Anti-HBs)
- Hepatitis C screen (anti-HCV)
- HIV screen

Note: A special arrangement has been made with the Public Health Laboratory so that only one tube of blood is required for all the above tests and a separate HIV requisition is not required.

2. Counsel patients who received dental treatment at Kawartha Endodontics within the past 6 months (window period) to retest 6 months after their last procedure. Additional partially pre-filled blood requisitions may be obtained from <https://www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/IPACLapseKawarthaEndodontics>
3. Counsel patients to take the following precautions to reduce the chances of spreading infection while waiting for test results:
- a. Do not share personal items such as razors, nail clippers, or toothbrushes
 - b. Do not share needles or other drug related supplies
 - c. Do not share glucose or blood sugar testing equipment
 - d. Clean up any visible blood from wounds or spills
 - e. Use condoms during sexual activity

If you have any questions, please visit Peterborough Public Health at <https://www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/IPACLapseKawarthaEndodontics>



Sincerely,

R. Salvaterra

Rosana Salvaterra, MD, MSc, CCFP, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health, Peterborough Public Health

General Test Requisition

ALL sections of the form must be completed by [authorized](#) health care providers for each specimen submitted, or testing may be delayed or cancelled. Verify that **all testing requirements** are met before collecting a specimen. For **HIV, respiratory viruses, or culture isolate** requests, use the dedicated requisitions available at: publichealthontario.ca/requisitions

Submitter / Health Care Provider (HCP) Information			
Licence No.:	Lab / Hospital or Facility Name:		
HCP Full Name:			
Address:			
City:	Postal Code:	Province:	
Tel:	Fax:		
Copy to Other Lab / Health Unit / Authorized Health Care Provider (HCP)			
Licence No.:	Other Lab / Health Unit / Facility Name:		
HCP Full Name:			
Address:			
City:	Postal Code:	Province:	
Tel:	Fax:		

Patient Setting		
Clinic / Community	ER (Not Admitted / Not Yet Determined)	ER (Admitted)
Inpatient (Non-ICU)	ICU / CCU	Congregate Living Setting

Testing Indication(s) / Criteria			
Diagnosis	Screening	Immune Status	Follow-up / Convalescent
Pregnancy / Perinatal	Impaired Immunity	Post-mortem	
Other (Specify):			

Signs / Symptoms			
No Signs / Symptoms	★ Onset Date (yyyy-mm-dd):		
	Fever	Rash	STI
Gastrointestinal	Respiratory	Hepatitis	Meningitis / Encephalitis
Other (Specify):			

Relevant Exposure(s)			
None / Not Applicable	Most Recent Date (yyyy-mm-dd):		
	Occupational Exposure / Needlestick Injury (Specify):	Source	Exposed
Other (Specify):			

Relevant Travel(s)	
None / Not Applicable	Most Recent Date (yyyy-mm-dd):
Travel Details:	

The personal health information is collected under the authority of the *Personal Health Information Protection Act*, 2004, s.36 (1)(c)(iii) for the purposes specified in the *Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion Act*, 2007, s.1 including clinical laboratory testing and public health purposes. If you have questions about the collection of this personal health information please contact the PHO's Laboratory Customer Service at 416-235-6556 or toll free 1-877-604-4567. F-SD-SCG-1000, version 004.2 (August 2024).

Patient Information		
Health Card No.:		
Date of Birth (yyyy-mm-dd):	Sex:	Male
Medical Record No.:	Female	
Last Name (per health card):		
First Name (per health card):		
Address:		Postal Code:
City:	Tel:	
Investigation / Outbreak No. from PHO or Health Unit (if applicable):		

Specimen Information		
★ Date Collected (yyyy-mm-dd):	Submitter Lab No.:	
Whole Blood	Serum	Plasma
Bone Marrow	Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)	Nasopharyngeal Swab (NPS)
Oropharyngeal / Throat Swab	Sputum	Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL)
Endocervical Swab	Vaginal Swab	Urethral Swab
Urine	Rectal Swab	Faeces

Other (Specify type AND body location):

Test(s) Requested
Enter each assay as per the publichealthontario.ca/testdirectory :
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.

For routine hepatitis A, B or C serology, complete this section instead:		
Hepatitis A	Immune Status (HAV IgG)	Acute Infection (HAV IgM, signs/symptoms info)
Hepatitis B	Immune Status (anti-HBs)	Chronic Infection (HBsAg + total anti-HBc)
	Acute Infection (HBsAg + total anti-HBc + IgM if total is positive)	Pre-Chemotherapy Screening (anti-HBs + HBsAg + total anti-HBc)
Hepatitis C	Current / Past Infection (HCV total antibodies) No immune status test for HCV is currently available.	