

# ***Infection Control in Dentistry***

*Assistant Lecturer Zainab Mousa Kadhom*

*Orthodontic Department\college of Dentistry\Baghdad University*

Infection control is very important to prevent the spread of infectious disease. Since many microorganisms are present in the mouth therefore the infection control has a special important in dentistry.

## **Primary goals of infection control**

- To reduce the danger of cross contamination by decreasing the levels of pathological microorganisms.
- Handle every patient and instrument as a source of infections.
- To save patients and dentists from occupational diseases.

## **Steps in infection Control**

- **Patient screening:**

By taking the medical history from the patients regularly this can help to identify agents that help in the diagnosis.

- **PERSONAL PROTECTION:**

- **Immunological Protection:** Vaccination against many types of infections is important to give immunological protection for the operator.
- **Barrier Control:** Disposable gloves, face masks, protective eyewear, head cap and surgical gowns regarded as physical barrier should be used during dental treatment procedure.

- **Washing and care of hands**

- ❖ **Certain points which should be kept in mind are:**

1. Gowns should be cleaned.
2. Long nails should be avoided.
3. Hands should be cleaned before wearing gloves and after removing the impression gloves.
4. Gloves should be changed after every patient.
5. Avoid handling the telephone and pen.
6. Use sensor lights instead of switches and sensor controlled water filter as possible
7. Disposable articles should be burned immediately.
8. Disinfect the impression immediately.