

RISK MANAGEMENT

Did you know?

Spore testing must be performed **WEEKLY!**

Since 2004, the Oregon Board of Dentistry has required that dental office sterilizers be monitored weekly. In addition, the Board now requires retention of the records of these weekly tests for the current year, plus the two previous years.

This rule has been in place since 2004, but the Board of Dentistry has only recently begun asking for spore testing records when they receive a complaint. Although the ODA is currently working with the Board to reach a resolution in this matter, currently fees are very steep for not following weekly spore testing requirements. Please check with your office staff to ensure that you are testing weekly and keeping records of these tests to prevent a violation and fine from the Board.

Weekly monitoring, which is also the CDC recommended standard, is based on quality assurance and standard operating procedures, as it was determined

that monthly testing places a higher risk if a sterilizer is out of proper operation. Sterilization procedures should be monitored through a combination of mechanical, chemical, and biological techniques designed to evaluate the sterilizing conditions and the procedure's effectiveness. If the spore count fails to meet monitoring requirements, dental offices should follow up with the CDC recommended procedures. ●

OAR 818-012-0040 Infection Control Guidelines state that (4) Heat sterilizing devices shall be tested for proper function on a weekly basis by means of biological monitoring system that indicates micro-organisms kill.

DBIC RISK MANAGEMENT COURSES

DEC 6 9:00 AM 7 CE Hours

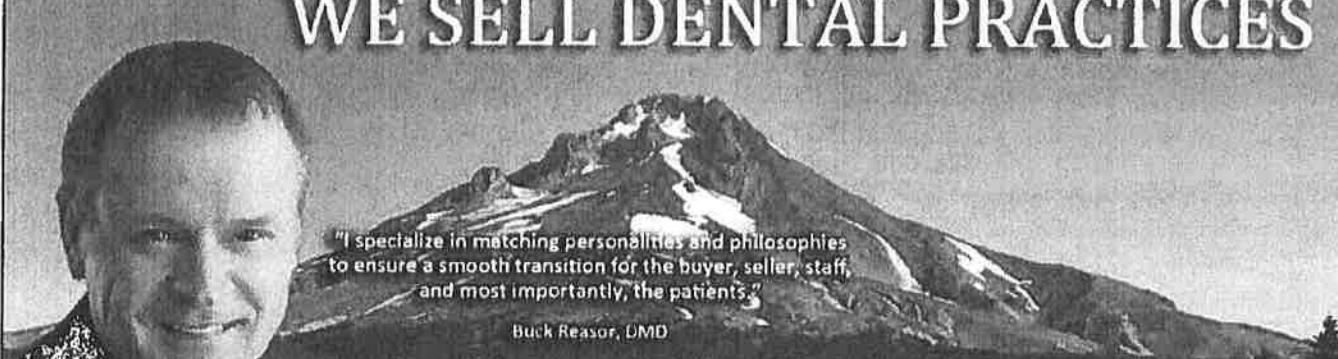
LOCATION: Oregon Convention Center, Portland

INFO: Multnomah Dental Society, Lora Mattson, 503.513.5010

DEC 13 9:00 AM LOCATION: Bend

INFO: www.centraloregondentalsociety.org

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