

Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Medical, Dental and Photo Processors

Environmental Protection

The City of Corona requires that all Medical, Dental, and Photo Processing facilities use BMPs as a means of limiting metal discharges into the sewer system

1. BMPs for properly handling spent fixer used in Photo and X-Ray processing:

- Collect spent fixer and have it disposed of by a vendor who will recover the silver in it.
- Spent photo chemicals containing selenium must be disposed of as a hazardous waste. Never pour selenium-bearing solutions down the drain.
- Facilities that treat the fixer on site must remove the silver by installing adequate silver recovery equipment (i.e., Chemical Recovery Cartridges – CRCs). Cartridges must be sized and maintained according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Maintain all disposal or maintenance records on site for a minimum of three years.
- The City of Corona expects all Photo Processors (X-Ray, One Hour Photo, etc.) to apply BMPs to spent fixer on an ongoing basis.

2. BMPs for amalgam:

- An environmental concern associated with dentists is mercury waste from amalgam. Keep amalgam out of sinks and never rinse amalgam waste down the drain.



- Clean or replace chair-side traps on a regular schedule and properly dispose of amalgam waste.
- Clean vacuum pump filters regularly, according to the manufacturer's recommendations, and properly dispose of amalgam waste.
- Send amalgam wastes to a licensed TSDR (treatment, storage, disposal, or recycling facility).
- Maintain all disposal records on site for a minimum of three years.
- The City of Corona expects all dental practices to apply BMPs for amalgam wastes on an ongoing basis.

3. BMPs for cuspidors:

- Dental Practices may discharge wastewater from cuspidors directly to the sanitary sewer without having to route through the amalgam separator provided that:
- During placement or removal of amalgam, use suction devices to evacuate waste and use cuspidor

primarily as a receptacle for patients when they rinse their mouths.

- Maintain in-line filters in cuspidor and handle all dental wastes, including amalgam particles, according to BMPs.



For more information contact:
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