

MEDIA RELEASE



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ADA NSW statement re: infection control

The NSW branch of the Australian Dental Association (ADA NSW) would like to reassure the public that the risk of contracting a blood-borne infection during a visit to the dentist is low.

ADA NSW is working with NSW Health and the Dental Council of NSW after a public health investigation into the practice of Dr James Pok-Yan Ng on Ramsay Street, Haberfield.

The investigation identified problems with the cleaning of dental equipment and the practice environment. NSW Health advises that the risk of exposure to a blood-borne virus is low, and that the initial investigation has not identified any patients with infections linked to this practice.

“Cases such as this are rare,” ADA NSW President Dr Neil Peppitt said. “Our 4,600 members in NSW and the ACT perform millions of procedures every year, and the overall standard of care is outstanding.”

ADA NSW takes infection control extremely seriously, Dr Peppitt said.

“ADA NSW is committed to the highest standards of patient care,” he said. “Infection control guidelines are stringent, and we work to ensure dentists meet required standards and adhere to all relevant professional guidelines.”

ADA NSW offers dentists high-quality training courses in infection control, with the relevant guidelines available on its website at www.adansw.com.au.

ADA NSW provides Onsite Infection Control Reviews for members, and information on infection control, as part of practice accreditation support. Members of ADA NSW can also seek advice on infection control from ADA NSW’s Peer Advisory Service.

NSW Health has set up an information line for current and former patients of the Haberfield practice on 1800 610 344.

About ADA NSW: ADA NSW is the peak professional association for dentists and dental students in NSW and the ACT with 4,600 members. ADA NSW has been supporting dentists and promoting good oral health in the community since 1929.

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