

Guideline: Point-of-Care Risk Assessment (PCRA)

The PCRA is a component of [Routine Practices and Additional Precautions](#) which should be conducted by Registered Dental Hygienists before every client interaction. The purpose of a PCRA is to protect clients, Registered Dental Hygienists, other members of the Oral Health Care team, and other individuals in the treatment facility by reducing the risk of exposure to infectious disease in the Oral Healthcare setting. In conjunction with existing CDHO Infection Prevention and Control recommendations, the information obtained from a PCRA should be used to inform Infection Prevention and Control strategies when providing client care.

BEFORE EACH CLIENT INTERACTION, A REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENIST SHOULD ASSESS THE FOLLOWING:



THE CLIENT

- Has the client been screened for symptoms of infectious disease?
- Have there been any changes to the client's medical history?



THE PROPOSED PROCEDURE

- Will you be providing intra-oral care or will the interaction be non-clinical?
- If the procedure is intra-oral, will it be aerosol generating?
- Is there a likelihood of exposure to blood, body fluids, secretions, mucous membranes, non-intact skin?



THE ENVIRONMENT

- Does the environment in which the proposed procedure will take place include factors that decrease the risk of disease transmission (i.e. adequate facility ventilation; a clean, organized, and disinfected workspace)?



RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

- Is PPE that is appropriate for performing the proposed procedure available?