

COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY



Dental Clinic Administration (MC 621)
801 South Paulina Street
Chicago, IL 60612-7211

Dear Doctor,

The undergraduate dental students at the University of Illinois at Chicago – College of Dentistry are required to collect extracted human teeth for use during their pre-patient care dental education. Working on extracted teeth is recognized as an important component in dental education and we are asking for your kind support by saving extracted teeth for our students.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) *Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings — 2003* state that extracted teeth may be collected for use in the dental education setting.¹ In addition, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) clarified their *Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens Standard* to allow for the collection of teeth as specimens for use by dental students.²

When collecting teeth please:

- Remove all visible blood and gross debris
- Store in a well-constructed closed container labeled with a bio-hazard symbol and the word "Biohazard"
- Store teeth in water immediately. For disinfection purposes, storage is preferred in a solution of 10% formalin, or diluted 1:10 sodium hypochlorite ("bleach") in tap water

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

We appreciate your support to dental education.

Sincerely,

Robin Waner, RDH, MS
Director of Clinics
Office for Clinical Affairs
312-996-6411
rwaner@uic.edu

¹ CDC, "Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings — 2003," MMWR, Vol. 52, No. RR-17, December 2003, <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5217a1.htm>, accessed June 6, 2013

² OSHA, "Standard Interpretations: 05/12/1992 – Bloodborne Pathogen standard as it relates to extracted teeth. Standard Number 1910.1030" May 1992, http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadispl.show_document?p_table=INTERPRETATIONS&p_id=20659, accessed June 6, 2013