**E Pro Dental**

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**Information Sheet for Patients with a Total Joint Replacement**

There is a **NEW 2016** Consensus Statement on Dental Patients with Total Joint Replacement from the:

* Canadian Orthopedic Association (COA),
* Canadian Dental Association (CDA) and the
* Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (AMMI)

The recommendations are:

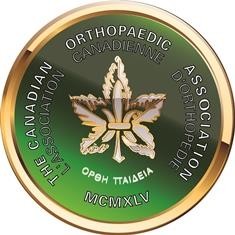
### Patients should NOT be exposed to the adverse effects of antibiotics when there is no evidence that such prophylaxis is of any benefit.

1. **Routine antibiotic prophylaxis is NOT indicated for dental patients with total joint replacements, nor for patients with orthopedic pins, plates, and screws.**
2. Patients should be in optimal oral health prior to having total joint replacement and should maintain good oral hygiene and oral health following surgery. Orofacial infections in all patients, including those with total joint prostheses, should be treated to eliminate the source of the infection and prevent its spread.

See full statement from the CDA, COA and AMMI on the next page.

The evidence does not indicate that antibiotics taken before dental procedures help prevent infections of artificial joints, and the routine use of antibiotics in this manner has possible side-effects such as increased bacterial resistance, allergic reactions, and diarrhea.

Due to these **NEW** recommendations, we will **NOT** routinely be prescribing prophylactic antibiotics for you due to your joint replacement. You may want to discuss this with your Orthopaedic Surgeon or your Family Doctor. If they feel that antibiotic prophylaxis is indicated for you due to a due previous joint infection or other information specific to you, then please have your MD give you a prescription for the antibiotics they want you to take, and then you can bring it to your dental appointment.

Consensus Statement:

# Patients with Total Joint Replacements

**having Dental Procedures**

## Preamble

The origin of prosthetic joint infections has been a controversial topic for dentists, physicians and patients. Confusion surrounds the risk of dental procedure-related bacteremia and the subsequent risk of patients with orthopaedic devices developing prosthetic joint infection following such bacteremia.

The Canadian Orthopaedic Association (COA), the Canadian Dental Association (CDA) and the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (AMMI) Canada have reviewed the current best available evidence on the effectiveness of dental antibiotic prophylaxis in the reduction of orthopaedic prosthetic joint infections, in the context of the issue of emerging antimicrobial resistance and the critical role of all health care providers to steward appropriate use of antimicrobial drugs.

These professional bodies conclude that:

1. Most transient bacteremia of oral origin occurs outside of dental procedures.
2. The significant majority of prosthetic joint infections are not due to organisms found in the mouth.
3. Few prosthetic joint infections have an observable and clearly defined relationship with dental procedures.
4. There is no reliable evidence that antibiotic prophylaxis prior to dental procedures prevents prosthetic joint infections.

## Recommendations

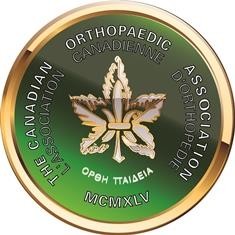
As a result of this work, the COA, CDA, and AMMI Canada provide the following guidance concerning the management of dental patients with orthopaedic devices:

1. Patients should not be exposed to the adverse effects of antibiotics when there is no evidence that such prophylaxis is of any benefit.
2. Routine antibiotic prophylaxis is not indicated for dental patients with total joint replacements, nor for patients with orthopaedic pins, plates and screws.
3. Patients should be in optimal oral health prior to having total joint replacement and should maintain good oral hygiene and oral health following surgery. Orofacial infections in all patients, including those with total joint prostheses, should be treated to eliminate the source of infection and prevent its spread.

*COA Board of Directors Approved: June 2016*

*CDA Board of Directors Approved: June 2016*

*AMMI Board of Directors Approved: July 2016*



This information was created by the Canadian Orthopaedic Association (COA), the Canadian Dental Association (CDA) and the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (AMMI). It should not be used as a replacement for professional dental or medical advice. If you have questions about this position statement, please contact the Canadian Orthopaedic Association.