WINTER 1997 EDITION - DR. DOI'S TALKING STORY

LATER TO LATEX

The American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology has identified latex allergy as a major occupational health problem, and OSHA rates it number nine on its priority list of hazards. Latex allergies also pose a threat to patients and may cause severe patient reactions, such as anaphylaxis (a reaction that can sometimes cause death). Because latex antigens are water soluble, contact between latex and moist skin or oral tissue can lead to significant allergic responses. Every time a glove is removed, resulting latex-laden airborne particles create a respiratory risk for workers and patients.

We feel we have taken the right steps by removing the major latex contaminators from the office (i.e. gloves, and rubber dams) and substituting latex free products in their place.

As we write this, we feel we are in the top 5% of the offices committed to creating a latex free dental office.

PATIENT'S COMFORT IS #1 CONCERN

Making the patient comfortable is a number one concern in our office.

Comfort in any doctor's office can be hard to come by. In such a sterile environment where the temperature is kept around 68 and most of the room is covered in plastic, it can be hard to create a warm, cozy and relaxing environment. That's why we offer you a blanket, a pillow and dark safety glasses to help make you warmer, more comfortable and relaxed.

If there is anything else you think of that would help you feel more comfortable, please let us know.