

Dear Sir/Madam

Important health message for patients of Somaey Dental Services, Fairfield

This letter is addressed to patients who attended a dental practice operated by Dr Sahar Somaey at Ware Street Medical and Dental Centre, Shop 3/ 37-41 Ware St, Fairfield.

Assessments by the NSW Dental Council and NSW Health have identified problems with the cleaning, sterilisation and storage of dental equipment used in Dr Somaey's practice in Fairfield between 12 August 2016 and 20 July 2017.

NSW Health advises that, **if you had an invasive procedure** performed by Dr Somaey between 12 August 2016 and 20 July 2017, there is a low risk that you may have been exposed to hepatitis B, hepatitis C or HIV. If you had an invasive procedure performed by Dr Hamdy El-Saedy in June 2017 at Somaey Dental Services, there is also a risk you have been exposed to hepatitis B, hepatitis C or HIV.

Invasive procedures are where a needle or other instrument pierces the skin, gums or tooth pulp/root, or where bleeding occurs. A simple check-up, x-ray, or getting dentures, for example, would not cause a risk of infection with these viruses.

Please note that NSW Health is not aware of any person being infected after undergoing dental procedures at Somaey Dental Services. However, as a precaution, if you think you may have had an invasive procedure performed at Somaey Dental Services, I recommend you discuss your risk of infection with your doctor.

If necessary, your doctor can arrange testing for hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local public health unit on 1300 066 055. Non-English speakers are encouraged to contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 to be connected to their local public health unit.

Information on hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV is available on the NSW Health website at <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/Pages/a-to-z-infectious-diseases.aspx>

Arabic and Assyrian translated information sheets on hepatitis B, hepatitis C & HIV are available at <http://www.mhahs.org.au/>

When you see your doctor, please take this letter with you.

Yours sincerely



Dr Kate Alexander
Acting Director, Public Health Unit